

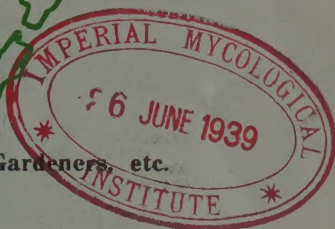
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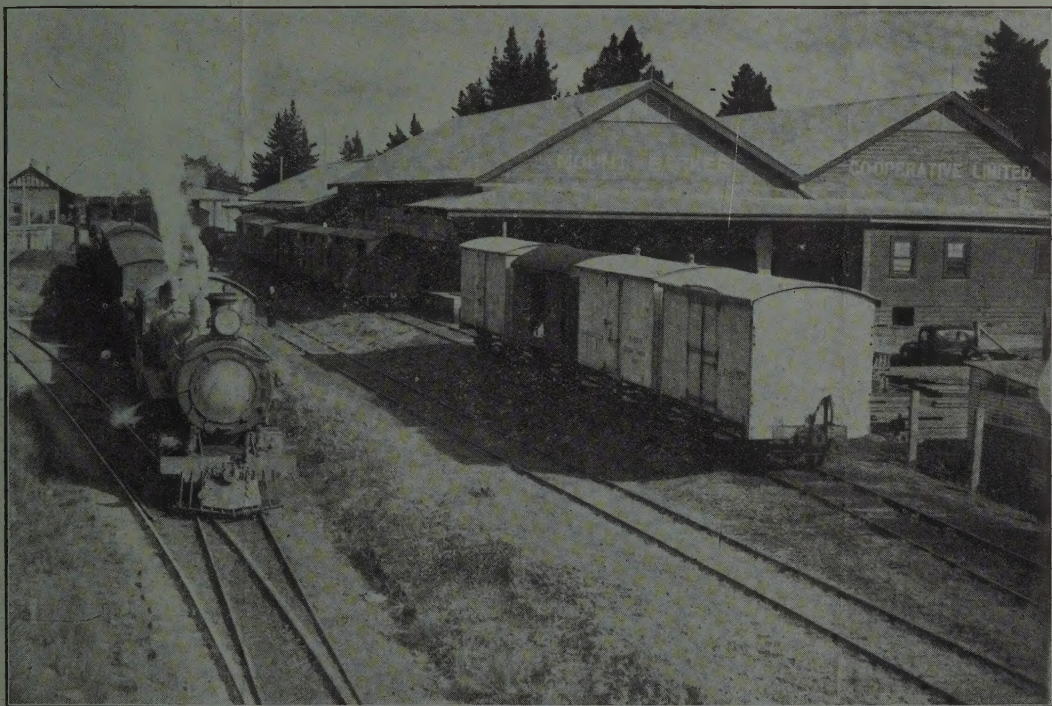
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Vol. XL. No. 5

MAY 5th, 1939

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Western Australia: F. H. Faulding & Co. Ltd., 313 Murray Street, Perth.**Works: PRAHRAN GROVE, ELSTERNWICK, VICTORIA****L 1468.****POULTRY NOTES****Stop Fighting Among Males.**

If fighting amongst males is not stopped quickly, much loss and disturbances in the flock occurs.

Male birds are apt to get pugnacious at times, and there will often be found a bully amongst them. Apparently docile for a time, they will start fighting without any apparent reason. It may be found a good plan to run a mature cock with young cockerels to keep them in order, but even these will sometimes fail to settle down if taken away from their hens. Overcrowding is often one cause of fighting and this can be arranged on an efficiently run farm. Other methods of prevention are dubbing, although not entirely preventive, it will at least save some injury, paring down the beaks, rounding off the spurs or trimming the claws, and dressing the feathers with some objectionable infusion.

A report from England states a novel experiment tried out in America some time ago was to provide aluminium-framed spectacles for the aggressive birds. It was stated that the previous average of 10 per cent. of mortality from fighting had been entirely overcome, but who wants to see a farmyard full of spectacled fowls?

EGG EATING.**Stop it Quickly.**

If this practice is discovered, it must be stopped at once. It will generally be found that one hen starts the trouble which, if not checked, may extend throughout the flock, as once an egg is broken the birds nearby will be likely to pick at it.

The safest way, though somewhat drastic, is to kill off the defaulter as soon as discovered, as it may be cheaper in the long run. If the culprit cannot be traced, try soaking one or two eggs in kerosene and leave them lying about the yard, this has been found to effect a stoppage of the vice.

Other methods are also adopted, but probably the trouble will not commence if sufficient laying nests are provided.

Tests on Fattening Foods.

The result from tests undertaken at the Central Experiment Farm, Ottawa, gives the following findings upon fattening.

1. The addition of 5 per cent. mutton fat to a fattening ration increased the gain by 18 per cent., the efficiency of use of feed by 27 per cent., the increase in percentage of fat by 15 per

Home Section**KEEP SMILING!**

A smile creates happiness in the home, fosters goodwill in business—and is the countersign of friends.

A smile is rest to the weary, daylight to the discouraged, sunshine to the sad, and Nature's best antidote for trouble.

Yet it cannot be bought, begged, borrowed, or stolen, for it is something that is no earthly good to anybody until it is given away!

And if someone is too tired to give you a smile, just give them one of yours, anyway. For nobody needs a smile as much as those who have none left to give.

HINTS FOR THE HOUSEWIFE.

If your felt hat has become spotted with rain rub with a piece of fine sandpaper to bring up the nap of the felt, then hold the hat in steam, and the combined efforts will effect complete restoration.

:: :: ::

Keep a small tin in the kitchen in which to drop, from time to time, all small bits of soap which you are unable to handle. They are handy for the copper on wash days, or they may be popped into a small flour bag and used in the same way as ordinary soap.

:: :: ::

Borax used instead of soda softens hard water. It whitens the clothes and is good for the hands. Allow a tablespoonful to a medium-sized copper of water.

:: :: ::

To give your linen a glossy appearance, put one to two teaspoonfuls, according to the stiffness required, of borax into half a pint of boiling water, add half a teaspoonful of turpentine, and put into the made starch.

:: :: ::

cent., and the percentage of "A" grade birds by 17 per cent.

2. The addition of 5 per cent. calcium carbonate (ground oystershell) to a fattening ration improve palatability, as indicated by an increase in feed consumption of 10 per cent.

3. The addition of 5 per cent. of molasses to a fattening ration did not affect gain in weight, feed consumption or increase in fat. Fewer "A" grade birds by 10 per cent. were produced by this addition, however.

"Method of Feeding Turkeys," by J. S. Carver, L. A. Wilhelm and J. W. Cook, of the Division of Poultry Husbandry at the State College of Washington Experiment Station: A 16-page pamphlet embodying the results of experiments and research in the rearing of Turkeys. Scientific delving into feeding programmes starting from hatching and ending at 28 weeks. Of interest and value to poultry raisers.

Warm the paper cases in which small cakes are baked before putting in the mixture and you will find them much easier to remove when the cakes are cooked.

:: :: ::

Soak rusty steel buckles in oil for some hours, then rub well with powdered bath-brick and lemon juice and polish with chamois.

:: :: ::

The crusts that are cut away when making sandwiches may be crisped and browned (sprinkled with salt) in the oven, stored in a tin, and used as rusks for soup.

:: :: ::

Keep a piece of orange-peel in the caddy to keep the tea from becoming stale, and to give it a really delicious flavor.

:: :: ::

After frying fish in lard, put in a slice of bread and fry it for a few minutes, then drain the lard and it will be free from all taint and ready to use again when required.

:: :: ::

If a stew is inclined to be greasy, try pouring a teacupful of cold water into it a short time before you serve it. This makes the fat rise to the top, and it can then be skimmed off easily.

:: :: ::

To remove scratches from furniture, mix equal parts of linseed oil and turpentine and apply to the scratched parts with a flannel. Then polish with a soft duster, and you will find that the scratches will be almost invisible.

:: :: ::

To prevent moths from attacking woollies, rub the sides of the drawers in which the articles are stored with the following:—Equal parts of oil of cedar, oil of cajeput, and oil of cloves.

:: :: ::

If a lump of soda is dissolved in the blue water on washing day it will prevent the blue from marking the clothes.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.**Mount Barker Co-Operative Ltd.**

Mr. J. McN. Martin has been chairman of the above Company since its inception in 1918. Mr. A. U. Martin, his brother, is a Director, also Mr. F. H. Sounness (Vice-Chairman), has been a Director since the Company began. Other Directors are Mr. O. A. Sounness, Mr. T. Skinner, Mr. R. S. Wallace and Mr. A. De Pledge. The General Manager is Mr. H. W. Soot-hill, with Messrs. B. and A. C. Hickling local and assistant managers.

APPLE PUBLICITY IN W.A.

A vigorous publicity campaign is in progress in Western Australia at present to move their record crop into consumption.

Various organisations are donating cases of Apples, and the Publicity Committee is delivering the Apples to Schools, where the children are also being given talks on health value of the Apple.

There is also much activity in preparation for the forthcoming Apple Week, which will be run on similar lines to the Melbourne event. Pamphlets are being distributed, and arrangements have been made for various well-known people to broadcast health talks.

SELLING APPLES AND PEARS.

Retailers Must Display Variety and Sizes.

A new regulation came into force in Western Australia on February 1, 1939, making it compulsory for all retailers to conspicuously display a label bearing letters or figures not less than 4in. in height, particulars of the variety, size, and grade of the fruit.

It has been pointed out that growers are compelled to grade and brand their fruit according to regulations, but the benefit of these conditions has largely been dissipated because when the fruit has been passed into the retailers' hands, neither varieties, grades or sizes are shown. The new regulation is designed to improve the retail selling of Apples and Pears, and to protect the public.

Up to the middle of April, Albany had cleared an aggregate of 325,000 cases of export fruit this season. The lack of facilities involved a great deal of delay and worry, as at one period there were two wheat ships and a coaster in port at the same time. However, the authorities concerned put forward great efforts to cope with the situation, and it is to their credit that the difficulties were surmounted as well as they were.

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NEWS OF THE MONTH.

Fruit Juices.

IT IS PLEASING to observe that the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research is about to undertake intensive studies into the subject of the production of fruit juices. This is a matter which has been dealt with on a huge scale on the Continent and in England.

Already in Australia several enterprises are operating in the manufacture and sale of pure fruit drinks. Nevertheless, there is far too much in the way of synthetic drinks offered to the public—"Fruit" drinks which never saw a piece of fruit.

All good wishes are extended to the C.S.I.R.—which has rendered such good service to so many Australian primary and secondary industries. Their fruit juice studies will be performed with the thoroughness which has marked all the undertakings of the C.S.I.R.

Fruit Publicity.

EXCELLENT WORK is being done by several sections of the fruit industry in making known to the public the health values of their products. Campaigns are being steadily conducted on behalf of dried fruits, canned fruits, citrus fruits, Apples and Pears, also Pineapples and other fruits, as well as vegetables. All this is assisting to create a fruit consciousness in the minds of the people, forming a general background on which the several sections individually paint their picture.

All this ties in wonderfully well with the findings of Nutrition Committees all over the world, the major point being that people generally are not yet eating sufficient of nature's products for normal health.

The question has been raised somewhat cynically and without sufficient depth of reasoning as to the final outcome of these campaigns, bearing in mind that other sections of food producers are also telling their story. A careful analysis has been made of the sums of money spent by advertisers on press campaigns. On what class of goods is most money spent? Tobacco? Liquor? Dress? Foodstuffs? No. Most money by far is spent on patent medicines.

Dr. Isie Younger Ross, speaking at the recent Melbourne Garden Week, at the invitation of the Apple and Pear Council, stated that one of the big present-day problems was the ever increasing outlay on medical attention. By including more fruit and vegetables in the daily diet, the great mass of the people will have better health and more money for other purposes.

Dr. Cecil D. Hearman, L.D.S., D.D.Sc., Lecturer in Preventive Dentistry at the Melbourne University, states that Australian children are

among those with the worst teeth in the world. He is using his best endeavours to bring about greater fruit consumption as the most effective remedy.

Thus it is to be hoped that all sections of the fruit industry will continue their publicity efforts, for in so doing they will surely assist in developing this important primary industry and at the same time perform national service in building the health of the nation.

Australian Primary Producers' Federation.

AT THE CONFERENCE of Australian Primary Producers' Organisations, held at Canberra in mid-April, it was decided to create an all-embracing Federation to deal with matters of policy. This Conference was the outcome of the Empire Producers' Conference, held at Sydney last year. However, as will be seen by the report of the meeting and subsequent developments, there is considerable diversity of opinion.

Some major primary producing interests were not in attendance, and other sections which were represented have since withdrawn, and it would appear that the effort to create an all-embracing Council of Primary Producers' Organisations was premature. In fact, owing to divergent and often clashing interests, it is questionable if an all-embracing organisation could ever function effectively on matters of major policy.

So far the development in the organisation of primary producers has been on normal lines, i.e., district and State bodies, federating into Australian organisations of specific interests—meat, butter, dairy produce, fruit, etc.—and even in the fruit section there are separate bodies for dried, canned, citrus and deciduous fruits. These Australian-wide producers' organisations have created their own technique for developing their particular industries, and have handled all matters relative to legislation, export, local marketing, etc.

Under the circumstances, the purpose of an all-embracing Federation is obscure. Certainly the fruit interests have not sought this type of organisation.

Happenings in New Zealand.

THE advanced social legislation in New Zealand has found expression in many ways, particularly in various controls in relation to industry, commerce, and banking. The Labor Government received an overwhelming majority at the polls after announcing its social programme. The subject is a big one, and the invitation is extended to our New Zealand readers to send along their views as to what is happening in the Dominion.

In the meantime, interest centres in regard to happenings in the fruit industry. The subsidy of 5/2 per case

for Apples for local marketing has been withdrawn, and it was understood that the export guarantee of 11/- per case, c.i.f. New Zealand ports, would not be renewed for next year unless the Government took over the marketing of both local and export fruit.

The Government stated they were willing to assist the fruit industry by taking over all fruit produced at a guaranteed price on condition that the New Zealand Fruitgrowers' Federation, and the New Zealand Fruit Export Control Board, as representing the whole industry, asked the Government to bring this proposal into operation.

The Federation took a plebiscite; a majority favored Governmental action, and the Federation passed a resolution accepting the Government offer of a guaranteed price. The decision of the Control Board is awaited.

The World Situation.

AT THE MOMENT of writing the thoughts of the people are centred on happenings abroad; the situation is fraught with grave danger. Lovers of free-

dom sense the danger which confronts democracy and civilisation. To a peace-loving people the thought of war is abhorrent, bearing in mind the unspeakable horrors in Abyssinia, Spain and China. The deepest thoughts of the people are in sympathy with the leaders of the great democracies, yet while hating war, feel that they must support their leaders in resisting any further encroachment on the liberties of free peoples.

PERSONAL.

Mr. John Douglass, Special Instructor, N.S.W. Department of Agriculture, left in mid-April by the "Strathnaver" for an eight months' tour abroad. Mr. Douglass will study irrigation problems in Egypt, disease resistant varieties of Tomatoes and other vegetable crops in Libya and Morocco. He also hopes to visit Italy, France, Germany, Norway, Sweden, Hungary, Russia, and Denmark, and to attend the international plant-breeding conference in Edinburgh.

VISITOR FROM QUEENSLAND.

Apple Publicity Methods Commended.

Mr. J. H. Leavy, fruit merchant, of Brisbane, visited Victoria and South Australia during April on a business visit. However, being a member of the Brisbane Apple Publicity, he took the opportunity of making enquiries as to Apple publicity methods in the States visited, and was pleased to observe the substantial progress which had been made.

Mr. Leavy is particularly interested in Apple distributions to school children, believing that this method of publicity is of the greatest value. He is one of the team which visits the schools. Being well versed in the health properties of Apples, and having a genial manner, he is able to tell a bright story to children.

The largest shipment ever to leave Shepparton was sent during April. The 42 trucks of fresh and canned fruit included 12,000 cases of fresh fruit. The greater part of the load, however, comprised canned fruits for Canada and England.

OBITUARY.

Mr. G. H. Wilson.

We regret having to announce the death of Mr. George Herbert Wilson, editor of "Fruit Culture," and managing director of the Agricultural Press and Grasson Press, of Sydney.

The late Mr. Wilson died suddenly in Melbourne on April 20. Apart from his activities associated with the fruit industry, he assisted several branches of the Returned Soldiers' League. He saw active service in the S. African War, also in the Great War. In the Great War he left Australia with the 54th Battalion, but, while in Egypt, was transferred to the 51st Battery of the 5th Divisional Artillery, and served with that unit in France, for some time in command of a howitzer battery. Badly wounded at Fromelles, he was invalided back to Australia in 1917.

The funeral took place from St. John's Church, Gordon, to the Northern Suburbs Crematorium.

News in Brief

The subject of Hydroponics—the growing of plants in water—is discussed in this issue by our River Murray Correspondent.

Storms and floods have caused much loss and inconvenience in the Goulburn Valley. On some Pear blocks the water was two feet deep, and bunches of Waltham Grapes rotted on the vines.

There was a glut of Beans in the Sydney markets at the end of April, and large quantities were sent to the garbage tip.

The Gosford District Agricultural and Citrus Council has decided to provide £500 for an investigation into the Black Spot of citrus.

Owing to there being a loss of about £1,000 a year on the Sydney Municipal Cool Stores, a Committee of City Aldermen has been appointed to report on closing the undertaking or leasing it to a private concern.

South Australian Williams Pears arrived in London satisfactorily this season, and made good prices. Sir Charles McCann (South Australian Trade Commissioner in London) advocates the use of a specific type of pack to prevent the bruising (see report in this issue of the S.A. Fruitgrowers' and Market Gardeners' Association).

S. Africa is still finding difficulties with the export of stone fruits. While shipments in the 1937-38 season were on the whole fairly satisfactory, over-ripeness was observed in some of the Peaches and Nectarines. Plums were unsatisfactory, and the position needs to be rectified.

The Government subsidy of 5/2 per case on Apples sold in New Zealand has now ceased, and the export guarantee is not likely to be renewed next season unless the marketing of both local and export fruit is handed over to the Marketing Department of the New Zealand Government. The N.Z. Fruitgrowers' Federation favors the latter procedure, and the decision of the Export Control Board is awaited.

Propaganda to increase the sale of Pears in U.S.A. is now in full swing. The retail trade is being educated in the handling of Pears, and ripening rooms are being used.

As Spraying is a Necessity —then use the World's Best—

NEPTUNE SPRAYS...

The better quality of NEPTUNE Sprays is always obvious by comparison with others. NEPTUNE Sprays conform to the highest standards, and they are consistently uniform in strength and quality. Successful orchardists recommend them. Try them yourself and prove that they're better!

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(Winter White Oil)

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(Powder or Paste)

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ARSENATE

ENGLISH BLUESTONE
SNOW

GENUINE BLACK
LEAF 40

NEPTUNE LIME
POWDERED SULPHUR

COPPER SPRAY

NEPTUNE SPRAY
SPREADER



NEWS IN BRIEF—(Cont'd.)

For frost prevention, tests have been successfully conducted in U.S.A. with blowers to circulate the air. It is thought that by combining blowers with orchard heaters positive results will be achieved.

To accelerate the fruiting of seedlings important results have been secured at a Russian Experiment Station. In eleven months, seedlings completed development which usually requires two years. One seedling bore fruit in the fourth year from seed germination.

Walnut culture in Europe is a big enterprise. Grafted trees are used.

Particulars of the tests to control Summer spot of Pears and reduction of russetting are given in this issue.

The importance of hygiene to assist in Codling Moth control is emphasised in the notes in this issue by Mr. J. L. Provan, B.Ag. Sc., Senior Horticultural Instructor, Victorian Department of Agriculture.

Application has been made to the Tariff Board for increased duty on Tomato Juice.

To study the factors surrounding the enlarged commercial production of fruit juices in Australia, the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research is preparing plans for a laboratory at Homebush, N.S.W.

Owing to the damage caused by rains, many growers in the M.I.A. will not harvest 25% of their estimated crop of Prunes.

It has been stated by Major A. D. Reid, N.S.W. Minister of Agriculture, that no ordinary flood will cause the wall of the Burrinjuck Dam to collapse, and every precaution is being taken.

Contrary to reports, it appears that very few Rice growers have suffered losses through the rains, and appearances for a good season are very bright indeed.

The Leeton Cannery claims the British Empire record in the output of cans of fruit in one day. Their record was 350,000 cans.

Young Farmers' Clubs

THE CHIEF INSPECTOR of primary schools (Victoria), has expressed unqualified support for the movement in a letter to the School Teachers' Union. He stated he would like to see it become a part of the curriculum in all rural schools, but that under the present conditions, it would need to be undertaken in a spirit of genuine enthusiasm.

Up to the present, 138 applications have been received from young farmers to attend the School of Agriculture for special courses arranged by Departmental experts. The classes will be held from May 22 to June 2, and visits have been arranged to the State Research Farm at Werribee and the Burnley School of Horticulture.

It is proposed that there will be an exhibition by young farmers at the Melbourne Royal Show this year, rather than a competitive exhibit. Exhibits of handwork, maps and charts will be welcome.

The State supervisors, Messrs. J. J. Keddie and J. Courtney visited the Rockbank school recently to explain the aims of the young farmers' movement, and it is proposed that Mr. Courtney will shortly visit the Main Ridge, via Red Hill, school to deliver a talk on Young Farmers' Clubs activities.

YOUNG FARMERS' CLUBS IN N.Z.

Following the winning of the Lincoln College Old Students' Association scholarship by Mr. G. O. Fallow of the Thornbury Y. F. C. the judges were so impressed with the applica-

Because of the sudden drop in vegetable prices, Victorian growers who watered extensively during the drought are finding themselves in a very unenviable position. An appeal is being made to members of Parliament for a reduction in water rates.

Because of the present glut conditions with vegetables in Melbourne, a plan for the establishment of a depot for supplying suburban markets and country districts with vegetables is being considered.

At the Kingborough Show (Tas.), great interest was evinced in an exhibit of Golden Delicious Apples. This is a new variety and it is expected that it will gain favor on any market where a well-flavored Apple is first choice.

tions received from the southland that two half scholarships have been awarded. These have been given to Messrs. F. J. Dolomere of the Woodland Club, and J. F. Winter of the Wyndham Club. Both these young men have taken a very active part in their clubs' activities, and fully deserve their good fortune.

It was recently recommended by Mr. C. H. Hamblyn, Fields Superintendent of the Dept. of Agriculture, that instead of the organised tours, as conducted at present, parties from different districts should go and stay for a period of ten days at the homes of members of a neighbouring club, and thus gain a more intimate knowledge of the problems and conditions existing in that district.

Clubs have been indulging in various activities: Taumarunui held a Field Day at Ngapuke, where they were shown the native land-development scheme; Rongotea Y. F. C. held the first "Parents' and Friends' Evening" in the Manawatu district, and as a result, it has been decided to hold this event annually; members of the Kaitia district, visited the freezing works and held a Field Day at Mr. Sutton's farm, where they were shown the method of working an electric fence. The Manawatu district held its first stock judging competition at Feilding; there were sections for sheep, dairy cattle and pigs; the Dannevirke Agricultural and Pastoral Association had three special classes for entries exhibited by Y. F. C. members at their annual show. Other clubs have been holding field days, debates, lectures, and social meetings.

GRAPE OIL.

Experiments in Germany.

An achievement claimed by the German chemists relates to the manufacture of oil from Grape stones.

Experts attached to the Rhineland wine industry have for several months been seeking means of using the stones and skins left after the Grapes have been crushed, and they now announce that oil production has become a commercial possibility.

Already, it is stated, over 40,000 litres of oil have been derived from the stones alone, and as the process is developed it is hoped to produce 1,000,000 litres a year of fine-graded Grape-stone oil.

DEATH OF MR. J. A. LYONS.

It was with profound regret that the nation learned of the passing of the late Prime Minister, Mr. J. A. Lyons, on Good Friday, April 7, 1939.

Mr. Lyons was held in the highest regard by all who knew him, and members of the industry who were privileged to meet him on many occasions, learned to esteem him for his unfailing courtesy and attention to matters brought before him, and for his personal qualities of uprightness and integrity. Australia has certainly lost a wise counsellor and true friend, and our deepest sympathy is extended to Dame Enid and family.

NEW FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

Following the lamented death of the Prime Minister (Mr. J. A. Lyons), a reconstruction of the Cabinet became necessary.

The Prime Minister is now Mr. R. G. Menzies, leader of the United Australia Party. Mr. Menzies also holds the portfolio of Treasurer.

So far the Cabinet is composed only of U.A.P. members, though it is understood the way is open for a continuance of the coalition with the Country Party.

Other members of the Cabinet are as follows:—

Attorney-General and Minister of Industry: Mr. W. M. Hughes.

Minister of Supply and Development: Mr. R. G. Casey.

Minister of Defence: Mr. G. Street.

Minister for External Affairs: Sir Henry Gullett.

Minister of Commerce: Senator G. McLeay.

Minister of the Interior (Including Works): Senator H. S. Foll.

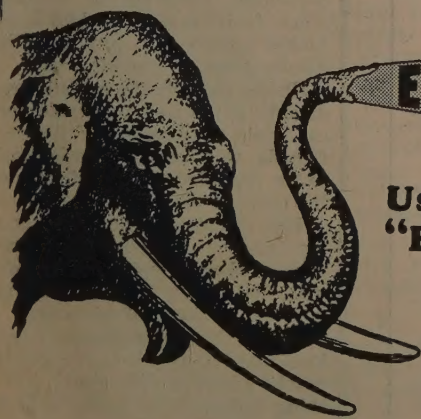
Postmaster-General and Minister of Repatriation: Mr. E. J. Harrison.

Minister of Trade and Customs: Mr. J. N. Lawson.

Minister of Health and Social Services: Sir Frederick Stewart.

Vice-President of the Executive Council: Minister of Civil Aviation; Minister Assisting the Minister of Defence: Mr. J. V. Fairbairn.

Ministers Without Portfolio: Mr. J. Perkins, Mr. P. C. Spender, Senator P. McBride, Senator H. B. Collett, Mr. H. Holt.



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Extract from "BETTER FRUIT," March, 1937, by Dr. R. L. Webster, Entomologist, State College of Washington, Pullman: CODLIN MOTH COVER SPRAYS—"Ever since the imposition of an arsenic tolerance in 1926, and even before that time, investigators have been testing other materials which may be used in place of lead arsenate. Following all these intensive and extensive investigations lead arsenate appears to have certain inherent qualities which place this material foremost as an insecticide for codlin moth control."

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W.A.—Westralian Farmers' Ltd., 569 Wellington St., Perth.

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and of guaranteed
quality.

Fruit Industry Enquiry

VICTORIAN COMMENTS ON COMMISSIONER'S FINDINGS.

The Editor, "The Fruit World."
Sir,

I have read with interest the summary appearing in last month's issue of the "Fruit World" of the report by the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the Fruit Industry of New South Wales.

It is apparent from the summary that the inquiry has been of a most detailed nature, and many of the recommendations made, if adopted, will have far-reaching effects in the industry, not only in N.S.W., but in other States.

In view of the fact that the full report is not yet available, it may be wise to withhold judgment of the recommendations generally. There are, however, some of the Commissioner's proposals that are of vital concern to growers in this State, and on behalf of my Association I should like to have the opportunity of making some comments on those recom-

mendations affecting the sale of cool-stored fruit on the Australian markets.

The recommendations referred to are:—

1. To compel retailers to indicate to consumers that cold storage fruit offered for sale is ex-cool stores.
2. To prohibit the sale of cold storage pome fruit (except Democrat Apples) after the end of October.
3. To permit the importation of Canadian Apples during November and December.
4. To prescribe marketing periods for various classes and varieties of fruit.

The first of these recommendations will be viewed with the gravest concern by growers in Victoria.

Experience gained in contact with the consuming public, particularly during the past two or three years,

when efforts have been concentrated on increasing consumption of Apples and Pears, shows that there is a very definite prejudice against cool-stored fruit. This prejudice, which probably extends to all other cool-stored commodities, is deep-seated, and is largely based on ignorance of the true facts.

It is demonstrably accurate to say that there are marketed throughout the Commonwealth each season hundreds of thousands of cases of sound, wholesome, nutritive Apples and Pears, some of which have been held in storage for considerable periods. This fruit retains to the full its characteristics and flavor, and is in no way inferior to fruit fresh from the trees. Actually some varieties are considered to be improved by cold storage.

Probably the Commissioner has as an objective the protection of the public against abuse of the advantages that cold storage has brought to the industry, and through the industry to the public by making available throughout the greater part of the year a valuable and essential food. With this objective every thinking

grower will be in accord, but there will be many who will differ from the Commissioner in the way to bring about the desired result.

If all fruit ex-cool stores were to be labelled as such it is feared that there would be a marked falling off in consumption during the latter part of the year. This would mean a concentration of supplies on the market early in the season. During seasons of normal supply an extended period of sale is essential to maintain reasonable price levels, and any concentration of supplies at a particular period would result in gluts, low prices and generally chaotic conditions. There would also be created a tendency on the part of growers to try to hold fruit out of storage for extended periods. Fruit held too long in this way is certainly inferior to cool stored fruit. It is believed that the adoption of this recommendation, affecting as it would the greater part of the crops of the Commonwealth, would ultimately have consequences more detrimental to the industry than any conditions of sale existing at the present time.

The recommendation that Apples and Pears, with the exception of Democrats, be prohibited sale after the end of October, is somewhat difficult to understand. Whilst there are many varieties that should be sold by the date mentioned, there are also quite a number of varieties of both Apples and Pears that retain their full merchantable qualities after that date.

Frequently, owing to depressed markets earlier in the season, many growers are dependent for their economic stability on the usually more buoyant and profitable markets for their late keeping varieties during November and December.

Such drastic curtailment of the season as that suggested must have most serious repercussions. Some growers, who specialise in late keeping varieties, would be deprived to a large extent of their means of livelihood.

Reciprocal Trade with Canada.

The proposal to permit the importation of Canadian Apples during November and December will be viewed with considerable misgivings by Australian growers. Setting aside the danger of the introduction of Fire-Blight, and this is a very real fear in some quarters, there is the fact that if, during these months, sufficiently high prices are ruling in Australia to attract the interest of Canadian shippers, such prices, as pointed out in a previous paragraph, are necessary to balance the budgets of Australian growers. As the season for soft fruits is in full swing during November and December, with a consequential lessening of demand for other fruit, prices would be quickly broken down by any quantity of Apples from an outside source.

Unless there is the certain prospect of substantial and profitable reciprocal trade in Apples and Pears with Canada, this recommendation is likely to be regarded most unfavorably by the growers of this State.

The recommendation that marketing periods be prescribed for the various classes and varieties of fruit will find much support among organised sections of growers. It is probable that regulations along these lines, not too drastic in conception and wisely administered, would do everything necessary to ensure sale to the public of sound, wholesome fruit; thus, in time, overcoming whatever prejudice exists concerning the cool-stored product.

Yours faithfully,

H. J. NOONAN.
Secretary.

Orchardists' and Fruit Cool Stores
Association of Victoria.



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Healthy trees will grow sound fruit . . . and there is one way, (we claim it is the best way), to keep a fruit tree healthy, namely — Spray with Gargoyle RED Spraying Oil in the dormant period. This oil is the famous original RED oil . . . the pioneer. Not merely an insecticide but a bark softener without an equal. Insist on the "Gargoyle" brand and be sure of getting the finest RED oil ever made.

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SUMMER SPOT OF PEARS

REPORT ON EXPERIMENTS CONDUCTED BY THE VICTORIAN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

(By S. Fish, M.Ag.Sc., Government Biologist.)

FOR SOME YEARS past experiments have been conducted by the Biological Branch of the Victorian Department of Agriculture with the object of eliminating or reducing Black Spot on Pears. The Southern Victoria Fruitgrowers' Association took the initiative and set about raising funds to compensate growers for losses on the experimental blocks. Others who assisted were the Cool Stores Association, Victorian Fruit Marketing Association, Southern Victoria Pear Packing Co., the Doncaster, E. Burwood and Diamond Creek Fruitgrowers' Associations, also the Commonwealth Bank (Rural Development Branch).

In a letter dated March 1, 1939, addressed to the Southern Fruitgrowers' Association, Mr. S. Fish, M.Ag.Sc., Government Biologist, wrote as follows:—

As requested I am forwarding herewith a short statement on the Summer Spot of Pear work conducted by the Department from 1932-39. The 1938-39 work on this project was conducted on Mr. W. A. Thiele's orchard, Doncaster, on a new site in the south-west corner of the garden. 70 Packham Triumph trees were involved in the experiments, and these trees were known to have been heavily infested with Black Spot in past years. Ten spray schedules were tested, and each treatment was replicated seven times on the randomised system.

The Pre-Blossom Sprays

consisted of a Bordeaux Mixture 6:4:40 applied at the green tip and green blossoms stage. While the pre-blossom sprays were common to all the treatments except the checked trees, the cover sprays were varied. These cover sprays included Bordeaux 3:3:50, Bordeaux 3:6:50, Bordeaux 1:1:100, Bordeaux 2:2:100.

Other treatments included 6 ozs. of bluestone and 1 lb. of lime casein spreader per 100 gallons of water, with and without white oil at the rate of 1 of a gallon of white oil per 100 gallons of spray. Two new materials were included in the experiments, namely, a German Bayer product, copper oxy chloride used at the rate of 2 ozs. to the 100 gallons, and the I.C.I. product cuprous oxide, which was used at the rate of 2 ozs. to the 100 gallons.

In all cases cover sprays were applied twice; firstly three weeks after the fruit had set, and again five weeks after the first cover spray was applied.

The season, being very dry, was unfavorable for the development of Black Spot, and consequently it was not possible to assess the efficacy of these cover sprays from the point of view of the control of Black Spot.

From the point of view of fruit russet the Bordeaux 3:3:50 cover spray, and the Bordeaux 3:6:50 cover spray did not this season produce serious russetting, and there was no noticeable difference between the russet which occurred between these two sprays. All other sprays gave little or no russet; but, as indicated previously, it will be necessary to determine their efficacy from the point of view of Black Spot control under epidemic conditions before recommendations can be made concerning them.

Control Measures Described

THE REPORT prepared by Mr. Fish on this matter reads as follows:—

The object of this work, which was commenced in 1932 at Doncaster, was

to determine, with a view to its control, why Black Spot (*Venturia Pirina Aderhold*) continued to develop on Pears during the Summer months. This development of Black Spot on Pears during the Summer period reduced considerably the yield of exportable Pears per acre. In some seasons, as much as twenty-five per cent. of the Pear crop has been rendered unfit for export because of the development of Summer Spot. It is thus seen that this disease affects an article whose export is possible. This export has increased enormously over the past twelve years (from 2,500 packages in 1926-27 to 370,000 packages in 1937-38).

Early in the investigation it was found that the development of Summer Spot was dependent on the presence of Spring Spot, and that a spray schedule effective for Spring Spot control was effective also for the Summer Spot.

The Field Spraying Work

on this project over the first period of three years showed that consistent control of Summer Spot could be obtained by the application of two pre-blossom sprays of Bordeaux Mixture 6:4:40 followed by a cover spray of Bordeaux Mixture 3:3:50 three weeks after the fruit had formed. The pre-blossom period was investigated with regard to defining its limits for safe and effective spraying, and it was found that the maximum protection against Black Spot, consistent with freedom from spray injury, was obtained where the first pre-blossom Bordeaux spray was applied at the late green tip stage, and where the second pre-blossom spray was applied at the green flower bud stage.

Again, of all the experimental sprays used at these two periods none were superior to Bordeaux 6:4:40.

With regard to the cover spray of Bordeaux 3:3:50, it was found that this strength of Bordeaux was approximately the limit at which black fungus spots could be sterilised in one cover application, and that where a number of experimental cover sprays other than Bordeaux Mixture were used in applications, it was proved that these were inferior in fungicidal efficiency to a single application of Bordeaux Mixture 3:3:50 where applied at the same stage and under comparable conditions.

While the spray programme of the two pre-blossom Bordeaux Mixture sprays 6:4:40 followed by Bordeaux Mixture 3:3:50 three weeks after the fruit had formed gave consistent control of Black Spot in years very favorable for the development of the disease on several export varieties under investigation. i.e., Packham's Triumph, W.B.C., Beurre Bosc and Winter Nelis, this programme produced a russet condition on sensitive green Pear varieties such as Packham's Triumph.

For the Brown Pear varieties this schedule was quite satisfactory, and likewise for the less sensitive green varieties such as Williams B.C.

Up to this stage, export regulations permitted russeted Pears to be exported even as first-grade Pears; consequently it was preferable to russet the fruit and take a reduction of one shilling per case overseas than allow the fruit to be rendered useless by Black Spot. Subsequently, the export regulations were amended in order to limit, at least in the fancy

grades, the export of green Pears showing russet.

With a view to the refinement of the Black Spot spray programme so that russet would be eliminated on the sensitive green Pear varieties, the experiments were continued for a further four-year period at Doncaster in 1935.

Over this period, some fourteen different experimental cover sprays have been substituted in the spray programme in place of the Bordeaux 3:3:50, which spray is the one in the schedule responsible for the russet. These experimental sprays were of the following types:—Copper, sulphur in various forms, zinc, salicyanide and oils, and while some of these sprays did not russet, particularly the weak copper sulphate sprays, the weather conditions during the period of these later experiments were such that Black Spot disease did not develop in the unsprayed trees; consequently the fungicidal efficiency of the sprays which did not russet could not be assessed.

Further work is necessary for the purpose of obtaining evidence that the spray materials promising from the point of view of the elimination

£55,000,000 A YEAR IN SWEETS.

A recent report states that in England £55,000,000 is spent a year in confectionery—£100 every minute.

Yes, and what about the children's teeth?

Doctors and dentists state emphatically that far too many sweets are consumed by children.

There appears to be ample opportunity for those interested in the fruit industry to get behind the cam-

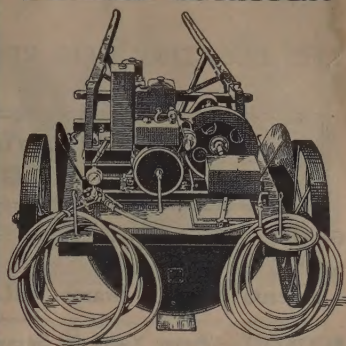
paign of the Nutrition Committees in conducting an educational campaign to increase fruit consumption.

Sweets destroy the children's teeth—fruits build up the teeth, and in improving the health of the children assist in developing a healthy nation.

"This is a terrible report—Latin, poor; French, indifferent; conduct, fair."

"I admit it's not up to much, Dad—but look at that—Health, excellent."

— THE — BAVE-U POWER SPRAYER



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of russet are also effective for Black Spot control under conditions very favorable to the development of this disease.

In addition, it is desirable that further work should be conducted with several other promising fungicides—Copper oxychloride and cuprous oxide—which were included in the tests for the first time during the past season.



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Australian Primary Producers

Formation of Federation Proposed

LINK WITH EMPIRE PRODUCERS.

Many Representative Producers' Organisations Oppose This New Organisation.

A CONFERENCE of representatives of various primary industries met at Sydney in mid-April. The conference was convened as an outcome of the Empire Producers' Conference, held last year in Sydney. The originator of the move was Mr. M. P. Dunlop, M.L.C., of the N.S.W. Primary Producers' Union. Mr. Dunlop was not in attendance at the meeting through illness, but an address prepared by him was read by Mr. J. MacRobert (Queensland Agricultural Council), who presided.

Mr. Boyer (The Graziers' Federal Council of Australia) contended that it would be necessary for the various primary industries to establish Federal organisations before forming an Australian Federation of all primary industries.

Other delegates considered that an all-Australian organisation should be created at once.

Mr. McKenzie, Victorian Dairymen's Association, opposed the formation of a large and costly organisation. His organisation favored an inexpensive "Council" which would only meet when necessary.

The Chairman stated the proposal did not contemplate a large and ex-

tensive Federal body—instead a central organisation representative of each primary industry to enable the farmers of Australia to speak with one voice on major problems. Each primary industry would have its sectional organisation to deal with the problems of that industry.

It was finally decided, on the motion of Messrs. Balfour (Wheat) and Stott (Wheat), "That this Conference of primary producers' organisations of the Commonwealth establishes forthwith a provisional Federation of Australian Primary Producers' Organisations, and recommends that each primary industry establish a Federal Organisation, where not already established."

Mr. Boyer stated that the Graziers' Federal Council would be unable to co-operate further on the lines decided upon. Mr. McKenzie stated that the Victorian Dairymen's Association was in the same position.

Mr. Murphy, representing the South Eastern Dairymen's Association of South Australia, and by proxy, the South Australian Dairymen's Association, made a similar indication.

Later, Messrs. McKenzie, Handbury and Davis, representing the

Victorian Dairymen's Association, and Mr. Murphy, withdrew from the Conference, Mr. McKenzie explaining that they were not in any way upset, but they were unable to co-operate further at present.

The new Federation aims at being a superstructure linking all primary producers' organisations in Australia. No organisation may join the Federation without first affiliating with its appropriate industry group. Its objectives, as set out in the constitutions are:—(1) To encourage a spirit of self help among primary producers in relation to production, transport and marketing; (2) provide adequate protection for internal marketing; (3) control by primary producers of marketing of their products within the various States; (4) control by representatives of the producers from the States of the interstate marketing of primary products; and (5) organisation and control by producers on a Federal basis of surpluses of primary products.

The constitution stipulates that the Federation shall embrace only bona fide primary producers' organisations. No organisation associated with manufacturing or commercial interests may have representation without special sanction from the central council. This proviso is added to open the door to primary producers in certain industries who are combined into co-operative bodies to market commodities manufactured from their own products.

The functions include devoting special attention to the tariff and to

keep in touch with all legislation, State and Federal, affecting the interests of primary producers.

Mr. G. A. Try was appointed Secretary. He was instructed to write to all primary producers' organisations in Australia which appeared to be eligible to join the Federation, inviting application for affiliation, £5/5/- to accompany such application on account of the annual affiliation fee; such payments on account to be utilised to provide funds to carry on the Federation until future finance could be definitely arranged.

Opposition from Dairymen.

Mr. A. McKenzie, of the Victorian Dairymen's Association, stated subsequently that, although the Victorian delegates to the Canberra conference supported the creation of an inexpensive council representative of the various primary industries organised on a Federal basis, and finally moved an amendment in an endeavour to provide for such a council, they ultimately withdrew from the conference when it was decided to form a Federation of primary producers' organisations throughout Australia. The delegates were unwilling to commit Victorian producers to subscribe to the cost of maintaining an extensive organisation, the usefulness of which was at least obscure.

The President of the South-Eastern Dairymen's Association of South Australia (Mr. T. J. Murphy), who also represented the South Australian Dairymen's Organisation, stated that his association was of opinion that the industries' needs were fully met by the operations of the existing organisations, and was definitely opposed to the creation of further bodies which would, of necessity, increase administration costs within the industry.

The opinion was expressed in Melbourne dairy produce circles that the dairying industry was already fully organised, and that the various control boards and organisations were quite competent to administer all phases of the industry and meet any emergencies that might arise. There was absolutely no necessity for the creation of any further boards, with additional costs to the industry, which was already contributing sufficient money in the form of levies and deductions towards administration expenses.

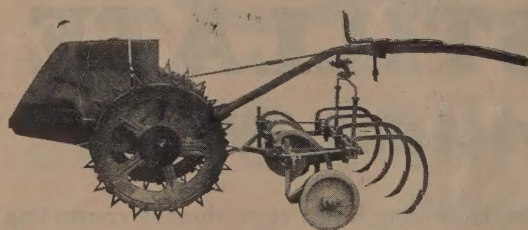
Strong opposition has also been expressed by representative authorities in Queensland and N.S.W. to the proposals embodied in the Empire Producers' Conference relative to commodity councils. It is pointed out that various industries have organised to set up their own commodity councils, and these bodies are now effectively handling their individual problems.

Fruit Interests Sceptical.

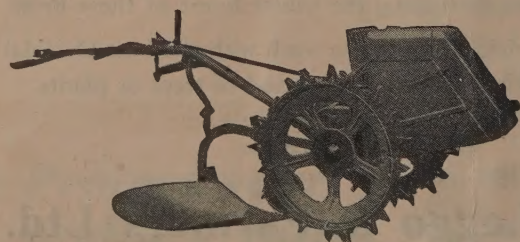
Representatives of several branches of the fruit industry describe the proposed organisation as the fifth wheel of a coach. They feel that they are now adequately represented by their existing organisations, and that the creation of a new body is unjustified. They state that experience in the past has shown that more efficiency is obtained when industries are in the position to intensively handle their individual problems without referring the same to a general or all-embracing body of probably conflicting interests.

The Apple and Pear industry is now in the process of setting up its own control board, and already has effective representation on the Empire Fruits Council in London.

Twenty-five national selling campaigns for the marketing of surplus farm products were conducted in the United States during the last three years.



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Tasmanian News & Notes

INSUFFICIENT BOATS TO LIFT CROP — TIME TAKEN FOR SOME BOATS TO REACH U.K. — ALLEGED INTOLERANT INTERPRETATION OF REGULATIONS — WASTE FRUIT FOR CIDER — PORT CYGNET CANNING FACTORY NEARING COMPLETION — SHORTAGE OF FRUIT PACKERS — FORTHCOMING STATE FRUIT BOARD ELECTION — SHOWS AT EXETER AND KINGSBOROUGH — GOLDEN DELICIOUS APPLE APPRECIATED.

(By Our Correspondent.)

Hobart, 24/4/39.

PICKING AND PACKING are still in full swing and fruit is coming forward for shipment for both oversea and interstate very freely in fact, I hear there are approximately 150,000 cases awaiting shipment on the Hobart wharves now, and more arriving every day.

This week the "Zealandia" took a very heavy shipment for Sydney, and the "Ngatoro" leaves for Brisbane direct on Monday with a fairly large cargo.

The early part of the Autumn having been hotter and dryer than normally, delayed the growth of the fruit and caused a temporary difficulty in filling the boats which has apparently led to an accumulation of fruit that is available now. The weather now (in late April) is unseasonably warm with the exception of one cold snap.

Difficult Shipping Programme.

The shipping programme this season leaves much to be desired, the protracted voyages of some of the vessels—notably the "Matakan." This vessel was timed to load here from April 3 to April 6, and is not scheduled to arrive at her first port of discharge till June 16, and then has to discharge at Liverpool and Glasgow, that is, over three months from tree to market. Surely this sort of thing could be avoided.

Slack Pack Tolerance.

The average quality of the fruit presented for shipment appears to be very good.

Detentions for alleged slack pack have been all too frequent, and growers complain bitterly at what they consider the harsh and unsympathetic interpretation of this particular portion of the regulations, whole consignments being rejected if the inspectors find any that they consider are slack. As it is quite impossible to pack every case exactly the same, a tolerance should be allowed to cover these minor degrees of slackness.

The

Cider Factory

has begun crushing and provides a welcome outlet for some of the waste fruit.

The

Co-operative Canning Factory

at Port Cygnet is nearing completion, but it is doubtful if it will be in operation in time for this season.

The Sandfly Branch of the Primary Producers' Organisation held a meeting recently to discuss the reorganisation of the Small Fruits Committee, but, unfortunately, owing to poor attendance, it was adjourned till next month. At the close of the meeting

Mr. Howard (Dairy Inspector) gave an interesting address on the care of cream.

Shortage of Packers.

The scarcity of fruit packers is becoming very acute in spite of the good work being done by the packing classes inaugurated by the Department of Agriculture. It is to be hoped that they continue this most useful branch of their activities. The Department's packing instructors do a very useful work travelling round the country and calling in at the packing sheds.

Forthcoming Election.

The State Fruit Board election takes place in May, when two members in the South and one in the North retire by effluxion of time. Both sitting members (Messrs. D. E. Ryan and Edgar Norris) are seeking re-election. Messrs. Merton Calvert and C. O. Smith have also been nominated for the Southern Division. As the growers usually vote for their local nominee it is probable that both retiring members will be returned as they reside in the most populous centres.

For the North, Mr. Bulman (sitting member) was returned unopposed.

Mainland agents are very busy touring Tasmania this season canvassing for consignments and buying for interstate and Eastern markets.

Prices for good fruit are attractive, in fact, better than they have been for years.

Exeter, on the Tamar, held its annual show recently, the exhibits of fruit doing credit to the competitors.

On Easter Monday the Kingsborough Municipality held its show in the Kingston Hall. The fruit and vegetable exhibits were exceptionally good in all sections. One exhibit in particular attracted a lot of attention, namely some cases of Golden Delicious. This is a comparatively new variety of very high quality, recently introduced by the Agricultural Department, which should gain favor on any market where flavor counts.

The committee also made a feature of ring events and the trotting, etc., attracted a lot of attention.

The newly formed militia unit also gave demonstrations.

Vineyards' Orchard Planter

1,500 Acres; managing director of wine cellars, Tokay also brings new ways in wine-typage, preservation of drinks, non-alcoholic also, seeks key position. Passage and landing money not required. ADDRESS: Paul Klaber, 17/a Boszormenyi ut, Budapest, Hungary.



Apples and Pears at Hobart, Tasmania, being inspected before shipment.

TASMANIAN ORCHARD NOTES

IN advices received on May 2 from the Tasmanian Department of Agriculture, the following is stated:—

The Minister for Agriculture, Mr. R. Cosgrove, is in receipt of the following report from the Chief Horticulturist, Mr. P. H. Thomas, relative to the condition of orchards throughout the State during the past month.

Harvesting, Packing and Export.

Overseas export is still in full swing, and up to the present 1,707,792 cases have been shipped overseas and 314,398 cases to interstate markets.

From the general appearance of the orchards it seems evident that the bulk of the crops have been harvested somewhat earlier than usual, and doubts are expressed whether the shipping season will extend as late as in previous years.

Inspection of packing sheds to-day reveals that with very few exceptions, poor quality fruit is not handled; at the same time many of the small sheds are working under extreme difficulties in not being equipped with efficient sizing and lidding machines. Under such conditions a "near enough" article is often produced, and the variation in sizes results in a "slack pack." The majority of growers are beginning to realise the effect of such handicaps, and the trend towards community packing is very evident, especially as the bulk of the buying is now concentrated in long standardised lines.

Packing Instructors continue to report difficulty in securing uniform crown packs in certain Canadian type hardwood cases; not only do these sometimes vary in size, but the tops and bottoms are often too rigid to allow a good pack to be put up without bruising.

Arrangements for the commencement of packing classes are well under way, and it is evident that a still larger number of adults and children will avail themselves of this tuition.

Stone Fruits.

Owing to the warmer and drier season, Brown Rot was not nearly so prevalent amongst crops. Growers, however, should not relax their efforts and hygienic methods will be of great assistance in reducing infection next year. All mummied fruits remaining

on the trees should be removed and burnt or buried at least 2 ft. below the soil surface. An application of Bordeaux Mixture (6:4:40) to trees suffering from Shot-Hole Fungus in the Autumn, supplemented by a late dormant spray, will give a good control of this disease.

Berry Fruits.

Raspberry and Loganberry plantations will now be due for their Autumn clean up, and the sooner old canes are removed and burnt, the less likelihood of trouble through anthracnose.

Black Currants can also be pruned now if the leaves have fallen, and cuttings set if necessary. Where Currant Borer is apparent, a large number of the larvae may be destroyed if the affected wood is removed and burnt.

Autumn Strawberry planting is still proceeding, but should be postponed if serious frosts begin to penetrate and lift the soil, and resumed in August and September.

Recent experiments have demonstrated the good results obtained by manuring fruiting beds early in the Autumn after the crops have been harvested. This, together with a clean up of rubbish and old leaves, will reduce risks of Leaf Spot infection and induce earlier fruiting.

Apiaries.

The administration of the Apiaries Act will now be carried out by the Horticultural Division. As a first step it will be necessary to effect a registration of all apiaries, the fee for which is 2/6. This covers any number of hives on a single property and is not a recurring charge.

During the coming Spring, when the honey flow is taking place, all bee-keepers must comply with the provisions of the Act and transfer any swarms existing in boxes or other unhygienic containers to frame hives. This must be completed by December 1, when an inspection will be made throughout the State. Apart from the importance of preserving the bee population in a healthy state in order to assist in the fertilisation of our fruits, there appears to be encouraging prospects for the development of the honey industry, and the co-operation of all bee-keepers is requested in improving conditions of production with this objective.

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TASMANIA.

Splendid Show at Exeter.

Expectations were fulfilled as to the quality of exhibits at the Exeter (N. Tas.) Show, held on April 1, and high praise was given to exhibitors and the Committee by the Minister for Agriculture (Mr. R. Cosgrove). The Minister stated that it was necessary for the high standard to be continued, and that efforts were being made to utilise new markets.

Mr. P. H. Thomas (Dept. of Agriculture) who acted as one of the judges, stated that it was very pleasing to note that all cases in the packed fruits section showed the crown pack.

Many awards were won by Messrs. A. Archer, P. R. Beauchamp, O. E. Hall and F. G. Bruford.

Included in the varieties exhibited were Jonathans, Sturmer, Cleos, Cox's, Orange Pippin, Delicious, Dunn's, Granny Smith, Alfriston, Democrats, and Rokewood. Pears included Bosc, Glou Morceau, Clairgeau, Comice, Packham's Triumph, Winter Cole, and Josephine.

There were other sections including vegetables, farm produce, dairy section, home products, preserves, fancy work, flowers and scholastic.

NORTHERN TASMANIA.

At a meeting of the Tamar Farmers' and Fruitgrowers' Association, Mr. L. S. Taylor, a member of the State Fruit Board, stated that insufficient opportunities were given for growers to meet members of the State Fruit Board and discuss the problems and work of the Board and the Commonwealth body. He asked the association to take some action in this connection. As a result it was resolved to call a general meeting of fruit-growers early in May for this purpose and to request all northern members of the State Fruit Board to attend.

Tamar Valley (19/4/39): The 1939 export fruit season for Northern Tasmania will close about the first week in May, with the departure of the "Australia Star." To date, 321,895 cases have been shipped from the Tamar, only 38,439 cases of this total being shipped during April. At the corresponding date last year, 333,748 cases had been forwarded overseas.

APPLE SUGAR.

An extract from an English exchange paper reads as follows:—

"According to an American exchange, Apple growers and processors in Virginia have been experimenting, and find that a profitable use can be made of cull Apples by converting them into sugar.

"It is claimed that Apples provide more sugar content than do sugar

NEW BLOOD RED JONATHAN.

Interest Created in Tasmania.

Great interest is being taken in the development of a new blood red Jonathan in the Huon district (Tasmania). The Apple is planted in several orchards in the district and in view of the demand for vividly colored varieties, it should prove profitable. The strain was secured by Mr. G. Oates, of Mountain River, about five years ago, from Mr. W. C. Page, an instructor in the Dept. of Agriculture, who obtained trees from a northern representative of the Department.

TASMANIAN STATE FRUIT BOARD.

The retiring members of the State Fruit Board are Messrs. J. S. Bulman, E. Norris, and D. E. Ryan. Mr. Bulman has been returned unopposed for the Northern division, and Messrs. M. V. Calvert, E. Norris, D. E. Ryan, and C. O. Smith are standing for the Southern division. Voting is compulsory and the postal ballot will close on May 15, 1939.

TASMANIAN PRODUCERS.

Small Fruits Committee.

A meeting of the Sandfly branch of the Tasmanian Producers' Organisation was held recently at Hobart. Mr. J. Coombe presided.

It was stated that membership had increased in Northern Tasmania, and it was hoped that the same would happen in the southern districts after the fruit season.

Mr. J. Hiscock stated the Central Council of the Producers' Organisation had decided to nominate a small fruits committee to look after the interests of its members and the industry generally, for they felt it was essential that committee should be directly responsible to the growers' organisation. The branches in six small fruit growing districts were being asked to nominate a member of the proposed committee, and it was suggested that a roll of members growing small fruits be compiled, and the committee be re-elected in future by ballot. The committee would have no statutory powers.

beets, and attempts are to be made to secure a market for Apple sugar. Already, Applejack, vinegar and Apple juices are being manufactured, and if sugar is found to be obtainable from Apples in commercial quantities, a new era may open for growers."

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Many men have the impression that a Savings Bank Account is suitable only for women and children, and that it is neither convenient nor dignified enough for business men.

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NEW SOUTH WALES

HEAVY RAINS CAUSE SERIOUS LOSSES — FLOOD CONDITIONS PREVAILING — RECORD OUTPUT BY LEETON CANNERY — SAFEGUARDING THE BURRINJUCK DAM — LITTLE DAMAGE DONE TO MAJORITY OF RICE FIELDS — PASTURES GREATLY BENEFITED.

(By Our Correspondent.)

Griffith, N.S.W. (18/4/39).

A WISE MAN once remarked, that Fire and Water were good servants, but made bad masters, and the present position of the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Areas amply fulfils the Sage's remark.

After months of intense heat, which in itself delayed the ripening season of certain fruits by at least two weeks, there was a fall of rain which relieved the anxiety of both large area and fruit growing settlers, and the season gave a promise of a good ending after a very bad beginning.

The Rice farmers were solaced by the thought that the rain would ease the situation for the supply of irrigation water necessary to bring their crops to maturity, and the fine fall of rain which came in early March, undoubtedly filled out the later Peach crops, and although some damage was done to the thinner skinned varieties of Grapes, the fall did no material damage to the later varieties such as Cornichon and Ohanez, which were later in ripening than in past seasons.

The growers anticipated a good spell of fine weather might follow, and that all crops, although showing slight loss would in the long run prove to have benefited by the rain generally.

Unfortunately, further very heavy falls spread over many days, and with the continued muggy conditions of heat caused great damage to all remaining crops of fruit.

Hundreds of trays of Prunes had to be dumped, as the rain turned them rotten on the trays, and in many cases, growers will not harvest 25 per cent. of the estimated crop.

The Robe Prune, which matured earlier than the D'Agens was in some instances harvested without great loss, and some fine samples are to be seen, but fruit that was still only three parts dry and on stacked trays developed mould spores, and spoilt on the trays.

The D'Agen crop in particular was very severely damaged, and after having paid for the picking and processing of much fruit, the loss will be severely felt by many growers.

At a meeting of Prune growers, which was however, very poorly attended, owing to the inclement weather conditions and the fearful state of the roads. Mr. J. Sainty, who represents the interests of the pooled fruit on behalf of the Griffith Producers Co-op. Coy., gave certain advice to those assembled, and stressed the point that nothing but sound fruit would be accepted by the Pool.

Only good fruit with unbroken skins would be canned, stated Mr. Sainty, and all fruit which had been dried before the rain would be placed in the 1st Pool, while all that which had been finished off after the rain would only be accepted on certain conditions in a later pool.

Unfortunately, much fruit was lost owing to it falling on the ground, and as soon as it touched the wet land after already being softened on the tree, the skin broke, and quantities of fruit was left on the ground or picked up into tins and dumped in fruit pits.

Many growers declare that it is the worst season ever experienced by them, and the further heavy falls of rain during March and early in April, has brought matters to a climax.

Not only in this district, but in surrounding Areas, there were such heavy falls that flooding of farms and roadways owing to the overflow of

drainage channels has caused damage to an extent which cannot as yet be fully ascertained.

The Mirrool Creek, the natural drainage channel, which runs round the area is running a banker, and thus causing a backing up of water that was not anticipated.

The Villages of Yoogali and Bilbul were submerged, and many farms were standing a foot deep in water, and as much of the land is of a heavy nature and a stiff clay subsoil, the water may lie for some time in certain areas.

The Wine Grape crop has been in most cases a severe loss, and even where some of the fruit could be picked, under most adverse circumstances, the land was so sodden and waterlogged, that only a few tins at a time could be dragged off the farms, and many growers had to cut their fences and drag the fruit out on to the main Yenda road in order to get it carted by the large lorries into the Wineries.

Such a season has not been experienced for many years, and may not occur again for a decade, and with the hope eternal, which ever springs up in a human heart, growers can be heard stating that "matters might have been worse" and "there are others who have suffered worse than we have." "Well, at least we have our homes left," and one drives away with a feeling of profound admiration for those indomitable souls who can jest with unkind fate, and make ready to again take up the strenuous fight which always faces the Man on the Land. Such is the spirit of true Australians, which will ever carry them through to successes in the end.

For a considerable time great energy has been expended in endeavouring to make a success of the great Regatta, which was to be held on the main Canal at Leeton, and of those who gave of their best was Mr. J. G. Youll, Manager of the Irrigation Commission, and the one from whom emanated the original idea of holding this unique function.

The Leeton four, coxed by a visitor to the Area won the half mile race against the Griffith crew, and every event of this inland Regatta was carried through with the same vim and thoroughness, which impressed the numerous visitors immensely.

Visiting rowing teams from far distant townships competed in the various events, and the crowd along the canal banks gave a semblance of Henley on Yarra to the onlooker.

Through the hospitality and generosity of Mr. "Joe" Gleeson, of the Hotel Hydro, who is a sportsman to the fingertips, many visitors were enabled to be invited and accommodated, who would otherwise probably have been unable to attend this excellent entertainment.

The Irrigation Areas have accomplished many records in various directions, and Leeton is to be congratulated on the foresight and public spirit of its citizens in achieving and staging a unique spectacle on their main canal.

The programme arranged by the Leeton Committee for the Silver Jubilee Celebrations is extensive and varied, and sporting items of every variety are being catered for, and these should attract visitors from all parts of Australia.

The £200 Pigeon Match in particular should draw large entries, and in fact the whole programme, which commences on the April 19, and extends to April 26, is a most elaborate one, and it is to be hoped that the present fine spell of weather will continue so that no hitch in the Leeton arrangements may occur.

The March of Troops, which has been arranged for Anzac Day, should be specially impressive, and four Troops of the 21st Light Horse Regiment, drawn from surrounding centres will head the procession. The locally raised Militia will march in force, and this fine body of men should rouse enthusiasm of the crowds, for the Units which have been raised at both Leeton and Griffith are a credit to any district, and moreover, have greatly exceeded the quotas allotted to these centres. Blood will tell and the Anzac spirit still lives.

Record Output.

Another record established by Leeton, is that of the Cannery, which claims as a British Empire record that which turned out 350,000 cans of fruit in one day, of which 10,000 cans were Pullar Cling Peaches, so that in spite of the inclement weather conditions which occurred during early April, the rain cannot have adversely affected the Peach crop to a very great extent.

Undoubtedly a large quantity of Peaches were spoiled later on and the standard reduced from canning grade to that of jam, but the bulk of the Leeton crop which is carted direct into the factory was saved. The fruit from Griffith has to contend with the long rail trip to Sydney, before being processed, and therefore the supervision by the representative of the Sydney cannery is necessarily very strict, and there are advocates for the establishment of a Cannery in Griffith to deal with the fruit and also other crops, on the spot.

With the serious floods which have occurred in other parts of the State, many conflicting reports have been spread as to the security of the Burrinjuck Dam, should an exceptional flood occur in the upper reaches of the Murrumbidgee, and its tributaries.

A reassuring statement however, was made by Major A. D. Reid, Minister of Agriculture, at Wagga recently.

The Minister is Chairman of the Flood Precaution Committee, set up by the Government to organise local committees throughout the Murrumbidgee Valley, and he stated that he had been assured by competent engineers that the wall of the Dam would be able to stand the strain of any flood equal to that of 1925, and that owing to precautions which had already been taken, it was in reality safer than in 1925, and its strength was being daily increased.

"I desire to break down the fear that any ordinary flood will cause the wall to collapse," said Major Reid, "the spillways have been lowered by 20 feet, and arrangements are being made to keep the level of the dam well below danger point."

It is only natural that the Government will concentrate on such a matter of National importance, and every precaution is doubtless being taken to rectify any previous mistakes and large amounts of money are being earmarked for the safeguarding of this important structure.

Some excitement exists at Griffith at the approaching visit of the British Trade Commissioner, Sir Geoffrey Wiskard, who will be accompanied by his wife, and the distinguished visitor has consented to open the Church of England Ball, which will be held on Empire Day, May 24.

Debutantes from all quarters of the Area, and outlying Districts are submitting their names for presentation to the distinguished visitors, and it is anticipated that the Ball this year will be a specially brilliant function.

Sir Geoffrey will also meet the local Branch of the R.S.S.I.L.A. at a Smoke Social, and great preparations are being arranged for his welcome.

The distinguished visitors will, of course, be extended an Official Civic welcome by President W. Bull, of the Wade Shire, and a comprehensive programme of visits to points of interest on the Area is being arranged.

Rice Crops Benefit.

Although many and varied reports have been current as to the severe damage done to Rice crops on these areas, the latest advice received from the Agricultural Instructors, is to the effect that most stories have been exaggerated, and that although the Rice harvesting will be later than usual, but little damage has actually resulted from the effect of heavy rains and flooding caused thereby.

Those growers whose land was flooded from Mirrool Creek, are the ones who have suffered most, but where the direct effect of the rain was the only element to contend with, the position is far better, and if the present fine spell of weather continues, the accumulation of water will be drained away, and although some difficulty may be encountered in the stripping owing to very wet ground, it is not thought that a great deal of actual damage will be experienced.

In the earlier part of the season, the Rice growers faced the possibility of an almost total loss, had the water supply for maturing their crops not been available, and now although there has been far more water than was needed, the position will at least ensure that good crops are harvested, and from the latest report received most of them are very good indeed.

The pastures also which some weeks ago showed very poorly, and almost appeared to have died out through lack of rain and water, have now shown a remarkable recovery, and specially so on the sandy soils in the Mallee country, around the Eastholm district.

The Lucerne is making wonderful growth, and the whole country presents a picture of vivid green from the herbage that has grown since the earlier rains.

The subsoil, which has been dry for so long on the unirrigated areas, will receive a splendid soaking which may stand to the farmers for some seasons, and with all creeks running a banker, and water holes filled to the brim, the prospects of better seasons during the next few years is a very bright one.

Following the visit to Leeton recently of Mr. A. H. E. McDonald, the Director of Agriculture and also Chairman of the Wheat Advisory Board, a reduction to 6d. per loaf, was given to the consumers by the local bakers, and Mr. McDonald will shortly visit Griffith for a conference with the same object in view, an application to the local bakers by the Wade Shire President, for a reduction not having been acceded to, Mr. McDonald was visiting Griffith with the hope of clarifying the position.

Good Cultivation Produces Quality Bananas

(H. W. Eastwood, H.D.A., Senior Fruit Instructor, New South Wales Department of Agriculture.)

THE HAPHAZARD METHODS adopted and the indifferent attention given to Banana plantations will have to give way to advanced cultural ideas and recognised marketing methods, if growers desire to dispose of their fruit to the best advantage.

To Improve Quality.

We have progressed considerably during recent years with Banana cultural methods, and if these modern ideas were put into practice generally by growers an improvement in the quality of the fruit would result. It is essential that more attention be given to de-suckering and the stools reduced to two plants and two followers, that being the most satisfactory system under all conditions. Some growers adopt the single plant and single follower method and obtain very good results. Either of these methods produces good quality fruit, and, in addition, the life of the plantation is increased.

De-suckering.

De-suckering can be practised every month, and by doing so all surplus suckers are kept down before they rob the main plants in the stools of plant food and soil moisture.

The rate of growth is dependent upon the number of plants and suckers in a stool, and quick ratooning results from limiting the number of plants in the stool. This means that an increased number of good bunches of good quality fruit is obtained instead of a large number of small bunches of inferior Bananas.

It is now an accepted fact that clean cultivation throughout the year, with at least one deep working of the soil in the Winter months, is the most satisfactory way to cultivate Bananas. Although it is now accepted almost as an axiom that you cannot grow weeds and Bananas, many weedy plantations are always in evidence, even when a prolonged dry period is experienced. It is an easy matter to keep weed growth down in the drier months of the year, and even during the wetter months, weed growth can be reasonably kept in check until the weather conditions are suitable to destroy it.

While deep cultivation may injure the root system of plants to some extent, the advantages gained from this practice far outweigh any disadvantages from root injury.

Fertilisers are Recommended.

Although there is much yet to be learnt about fertilising Bananas, the results secured by those who do use fertilisers show that manuring is necessary to maintain satisfactory plant growth and successful fruit production. If any doubt exists amongst growers on this point, they should carry out small trials on their plantation by manuring one section and comparing it with an unmanured portion.

The main feature of successful Banana growing is to keep the plants growing vigorously from when they are planted, guarding against their receiving a check at any period of their life. — N.S.W. "Agricultural Gazette."

FRUIT AT SYDNEY SHOW.

Tallong Wins Prizes for Apple and Pear Pyramid.

Tallong won both the Apple and Pear pyramid competitions at the Sydney Show. There was only one Pear pyramid exhibited. For the Apple pyramid, Orange (last year's winner) was placed second, with Goulburn third.

Judges commented on the excellence of the fruit in the Apple pyramid, and the color of the Jonathans and other varieties shown by Tallong.

In the district collection of Apples, the fruit was very clean and free from disease, but the affect of the severe season was shown. Many growers lost points in the Export Apple section through not complying with the export regulations.

Many awards were won by Messrs. Morris and Sons, W. S. Cripps, W. J. I. Nancarrow, C. C. Barberie, W. Woolard and Sons, Millgate Bros., and F. H. Bohringer.

Amongst the Apple varieties exhibited were Cleopatra, London Pippin, Jonathan, Dunn's, Rome Beauty, Delicious, Democrat, Stayman, Yates, Macintosh Reds, Granny Smith.

Pears:—Josephine, Packham's Triumph, Winter Cole, Winter Nelis, Beurre Bosc, also Grapes, Oranges, Lemons, Quinces and Persimmons.

The officiating judges were:—

Messrs. C. G. Savage, H. Broadfoot, R. J. Benton, D. D. Atkins (Dept. of Agriculture) and J. M. Arthur (Hawkesbury College).

Heard in a Sydney restaurant:—"Have you any celery?"
"No, sir, but I make enough with tips."

CHOICE FRUIT AT BATLOW SHOW.

Despite the bad season, exhibits at the Batlow (N.S.W.) Show were well up to the general average.

Exhibitors who won awards were Messrs. E. M. Herring, T. W. Robson, J. Sedgwick, E. H. Pursell, Vanzella Bros., C. McD. Stuart, C. C. Barberie, H. N. Cash, R. H. Quarmby, Bowman and Sons, B. Hartnett, and Miss S. E. Velvin, R. C. Morton, N. R. Herring, N. L. Quarmby, P. E. Cook, R. Enwright, K. Glynn, B. Hargreaves, Mrs. A. Purcell.

Varieties exhibited included Granny Smiths, Delicious, Jonathans, Yates, Democrats, Rome Beauty, Stayman, Dougherty, Lalla, Winter Coles, Winter Nelis, Packhams, Josephine, Quinces and Peaches.

NEW PLUM IN CANADA.

Hybrid Twice Normal Size

A new Plum tree has been developed in Canada by hybridising methods. The tree grows fruit twice the size of the normal Plum, has fine keeping qualities and is of excellent dessert quality.

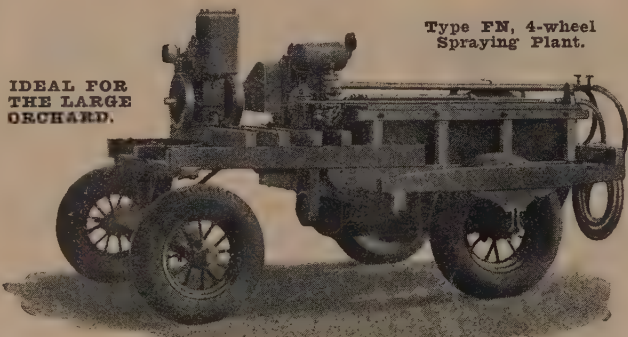
The new Plum has now been grown on a commercial basis and has already attracted world-wide notice. The buyer of a large chain store of English restaurants investigated the new Plum and has contracted for the 1939 crop. He also purchased five young trees that were available and shipped them to England, where they will be planted in the famous Royal Botanical Gardens at Kew, London.

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STRAWBERRY CULTURE.

Hints from N.S.W.

Now is an excellent time for planting out Strawberries.

It is good practice to plant two varieties in close proximity for the purpose of cross pollination.

Several varieties have proved of value in different parts of N.S.W. As regards the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area, however, only three varieties are recommended by Mr. P. C. Bottrell, Fruit Inspector, Department of the N.S.W. Department of Agriculture, are as follows:—

Feldelcino.

This variety gave by far the best results over a season. The berries are large, well-formed and firm and this variety carried fruit from October until December, and proved easily the most prolific bearer. It is pointed out, however, that this variety definitely requires a pollinator to be grown with it, and in this regard, Mason's Immense gave excellent results.

Mason's Immense.

This proved to be a good bearer of large, well-formed fruit, but for flavour and carrying qualities was rather disappointing. However, as this type has shown its unmistakable suitability as a pollinator for the Feldelcino variety, it must be accorded a place in my commercial plot.

Ettersberg 89.

This is undoubtedly the finest Strawberry of all those tried out, and is outstanding in flavour, form of berry and attractive appearance. The only fault with this splendid variety is that, although it sets an immense crop early in the season, the production of a second crop is negligible. The foliage of this variety is very vigorous, and as the berries are borne on short stems, they are well sheltered from the hot sun.

System of Planting.

The system of planting employed is determined by the method of irrigation it is proposed to use. For all systems of spray irrigation, rows 2 to 3 feet apart, with the plants spaced at about 10 inches in the rows is a useful and suitable distance. If, however, the furrow method of watering is to be used, raised single rows running with the fall of the land, should be adopted.

The raised rows can be made by first marking out the rows 24 inches apart, and then forming a bank on the marked line with the aid of a light plough or scuffler fitted with a hilling attachment.

The plants are then set out along the crown of the ridge thus formed using the spacing previously mentioned.

The method of irrigating by this system is simple. A supply furrow is run along the highest side of the patch and the water is diverted into the hollows between the banks. The water will naturally flow to the lower portion of the patch, and must be left on long enough to saturate thoroughly the whole bed. As the Strawberry is a shallow-rooted plant, care must be taken not to allow the soil to dry out and for this reason frequent light waterings are of more

Citrus News and Notes

Preventing Fungal Decay in Citrus

Value of Impregnated Wrappers

COMMERCIAL CONDENSATIONS EXAMINED.

INTERESTING INFORMATION FROM PALESTINE.

EXPERIMENTS have recently been conducted with the use of Impregnated Wrappers in the prevention of Fungal Decay of Citrus Fruit, and are explained by Dr. A. Farkas, the Hebrew University, Jerusalem, in a booklet reprinted from "Hadar."

In both the shipping and storage experiments standard boxes of Oranges were used, while the Oranges were handled as required by the existing regulations. Experiments were conducted with first, second and third grade fruit, the grades are defined as for export. In each experiment a number of cases contained fruit wrapped in ordinary paper and the rest of the cases had fruit of the same size and grade wrapped in paper impregnated with diphenyl. The cases were shipped under as identical conditions as possible.

The results of the storage experiments showed that with the use of diphenyl-treated wrappers, duration of storage can be extended to one month, under most adverse conditions, without resorting to either refrigeration or special ventilation, the wastage amounting to some 2 per cent. Under favourable circumstances, fruit can be stored for two months or even longer in the case of early fruit. When the fruit packed in impregnated wrappers begins to rot it remains dry and does not infect the adjacent sound fruit.

The shipping experiments were done in different periods of the season and with various kinds of fruit from different districts. The use of diphenyl-

treated wrappers reduced the fungal decay of Oranges by a factor of six or seven. The wastage did not reach 7 per cent. even under adverse conditions, but under normal conditions kept well below 5 per cent.

In this booklet, Dr. Farkas states that in considering the commercial application of impregnated wrappers in the Palestinian citrus industry a rigorous review of the technical, commercial, sanitary and economic factors must be made.

The technical aspect shows that the kind of paper generally in use in Palestine is suitable for impregnation. The commercial factor has not been tested fully as the fruit packed in these wrappers was not offered for sale. Diphenyl has a disadvantage of possessing a slight, but characteristic smell, which might prove objectionable, but no smell could be detected in fruit stored for two or three weeks in impregnated paper. From the sanitary point of view, no objection could be raised, as diphenyl is a harmless substance. The economic point is the most important one. After comparing figures as to losses, etc., it was discovered that it might be more economical not to use impregnated wrappers in all cases, where the good keeping quality of the fruit is known.

Diphenyl is not the only substance which possess strong fungicidal properties when impregnated into wrapping, as a matter of fact some substances have been found recently which might be even more advantageous than diphenyl.

CITRUS REGULATIONS.

Premises used for the packing of citrus fruit for export must now be registered, according to regulations issued by the Department of Commerce. These regulations set out detailed specifications relating to hygiene, etc. The amendments are made in Statutory Rules 1939, No. 12, under the Customs Act (1901-1936), and the Commerce Trade Descriptions Act 1905-1933).

benefit than a heavy soaking once a fortnight.

Plants should be obtained from inland districts, as these are usually more healthy and vigorous and likely to be more acclimatised than coastal grown plants. It is most important that the planting should be completed by the end of May, as the plants will then develop a good root system, enabling them to be ready for their months of growth and production in the Spring. As coastal growers prefer the clean, healthy and vigorous plants that it is possible to grow on the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Areas, the production of runner plants to supply this demand offers definite possibilities.

N.S.W. CITRUS CROP PROSPECTS.

Good Rains Increase Crop Prospects.

The estimated citrus crop for N.S.W. was for 2,418,000 bushels, and since the rains the trees have recovered remarkably, making prospects look very bright (states the Department of Agriculture).

In the Hawkesbury District Valencias are fair to good, common Oranges are irregular, Silettas and Joppas are sizing satisfactorily, Sevilles are mostly light, fair to good crops of Lemons are in sight, and Mandarins are light.

Navels are developing satisfactorily in the Parramatta-Camden area. Navels, although not heavy, are sizing nicely in the Kurrajong area, Sevilles are filling out, Mandarins appear to be light to medium, and there seems to be a reasonably good setting of Lemons.

Griffith crops of Navels are light to moderate, Valencias, medium to light, Lemons and Grapefruit moderate, and light to medium crops of Mandarins.

CITRUS CULTURE.

Investigations at Griffith, N.S.W.

BECAUSE OF THE CONCERN expressed by many growers regarding the unthrifty condition of citrus trees, experiments are at present being conducted at the Commonwealth Research Station at Griffith, N.S.W. by Dr. Joan Hearman.

Symptoms are a thin open appearance of the tree, yellowing and dropping of foliage, production of small leaves and frequently the setting of an unusually large crop. The affected tree may die out in a season or two, and the symptoms may appear first on a few scattered trees, gradually spreading over the whole block.

Some of the most prominent conditions causing the decline are water-logging, salt, under irrigation, disease or poor root stock, an over-dose of sulphate of ammonia, fumigation or frost injury.

It is believed that poor quality rootstocks may be a factor in citrus decline.

Vigorous growth should be encouraged by liberal applications of farmyard manure, sulphate of ammonia and the use of tickbeans, drastic cutting back or deheading. A root rotting fungus may be the cause also.

The Californian recommendation for such cases is a bluestone treatment. A solution of bluestone (copper sulphate) one pound to ten gallons of water, is poured into holes sunk into the ground around the tree. Three or four holes one inch to one and a quarter inches in diameter and 12 to 18 inches deep, starting four to six inches from the trunk of the tree and sloping inwards towards the tap root, are used. The holes should start from a shallow basin around the trunk of the tree.

The ten gallons for each tree may be applied at one time, or in three applications at one day intervals. If a tree has died out from root rot, an application of 10 gallons of bluestone solution to the soil, is recommended as a soil disinfectant.

Collar Rot.

Most growers are familiar with collar rot and its treatment. Infected patches around the collar or at the bases of the main roots should be cut away and treated with bluestone paste (one part of bluestone (copper sulphate) to one and a half parts of slaked lime mixed to a paste with water). Many root rots do not start at the collar and form definite diseased patches, and it is for these that the former treatment is intended.

If the trouble appears to be due to poor rootstocks, there is little that can be done. However, there is a possibility that a system of inarching more vigorous rootstocks into such trees may prove efficacious.

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CITRUS NOTES—(Continued)

IMPROVEMENT OF CITRUS.

ACCORDING to the opinion held by Mr. A. C. Wenholz, Director of Plant Breeding (N.S.W. Dept. of Agriculture), Oranges are not yet satisfactory from the consumers point of view.

Despite the work which has been done recently, Mr. Wenholz considers that Washington Navel and Valencia Oranges cannot satisfy the consumers' demands. Owing to Valencia having a somewhat "raggy" flesh, an Orange coming in at about the same time is needed to replace it. However, bud sports have so far failed to produce any variety or strain of Valencia, which is superior to the original.

Although the raising of seedlings from open pollinated fruits of the variety, and from crosses of it with other varieties, does not offer a certain chance of success, some effort is being made along these lines.

Whitby Seedling and white Siletta, both early maturing Oranges of excellent quality have been chiefly used

as parents in crossing with Valencia in this objective. Crosses with Washington Navel are also being undertaken in the hope of evolving a late maturing type.

Of recent years the grapefruit has become very popular, and although the origin appears to be obscure, it is thought that it has been developed from a cross between the Shaddock and the Pomelo.

Because of its seedlessness, the Marsh grapefruit is most largely grown. However, improvement on its thick rind and bitterness is desired, and it is being crossed with varieties such as Wheeney, Poorman and Royal.

The Research Station is attacking the problem of citrus decline from several different aspects such as the response of citrus roots to water-logged, salt, and droughty conditions, the suitability of different types of rootstocks for different conditions and several methods of inducing renewed vigor in declining trees, inarching, and the injection of nutrients or stimulants to help trees overcome adverse conditions.

Citrus Culture . .

Control of White Louse Scale Autumn — Winter Spraying

White louse scale of citrus trees may be rapidly recognised by the appearance of the trunk and main branches of the trees. This is due to the large number of male scales present, which are very conspicuous by their white ribbed covering. The female, however, is dull brown, greyish or almost black, and thus not easily detected.

Considerable damage may result from this infestation, particularly if it is heavy or the season is dry (states the N.S.W. Department of Agriculture).

The trees may become "hide bound" and crack, gumming occurring in some instances, and attacks by borers following. Even as a direct result of white louse, injury however, large limbs in the centres of the tree may be killed, and in extreme cases the leaves and fruit may become severely infested, this resulting in leaf-fall and fruit disfigurement.

There are two main broods of this scale during the year, the peak larval emergences being during October to December, and March to May. The females overwinter mainly in the adult stage, and the eggs which are laid in the Spring beneath the scale-covering, hatch shortly afterwards.

This scale may be controlled either by fumigation with hydrocyanic acid gas or by spraying with lime-sulphur. Regular oil spraying exercises some check, but when conditions are favourable for development and the infestation is heavy, oil spraying is of little value.

Lime-sulphur at the rate of 1 to 15 is quite satisfactory if a good quality solution is used, otherwise a greater concentration, up to 1 to 10, may be necessary.

Late Autumn and Winter spraying (May to August) is usually most satisfactory, as the possibility of injury to the trees is less at this period of the year. Generally, only the centres of the trees are treated, the spray being directed from the inside outwards, but during the Winter a more thorough spraying, all over the trees, may be given with little risk of injury. The addition of some form of spreader is advisable, and for this purpose casein-lime may be used at the rate of 1 lb to 80 gallons of spray.

WRAPS ON ORANGES.

Juggling by Fruiterers.

Consternation is being felt by citrus growers who have been informed that unwrapped fruit is being sold under a certain brand. The Murrabit Packing Co. Ltd. (Blue Ribbon brand), are urging consumers to demand their fruit in the wraps, and to look with suspicion on any attempt to remove same. The packers of well-known brands take a pride in their product, and it is disheartening to know that both packer and public are being exploited by a certain small section of fruiterers.

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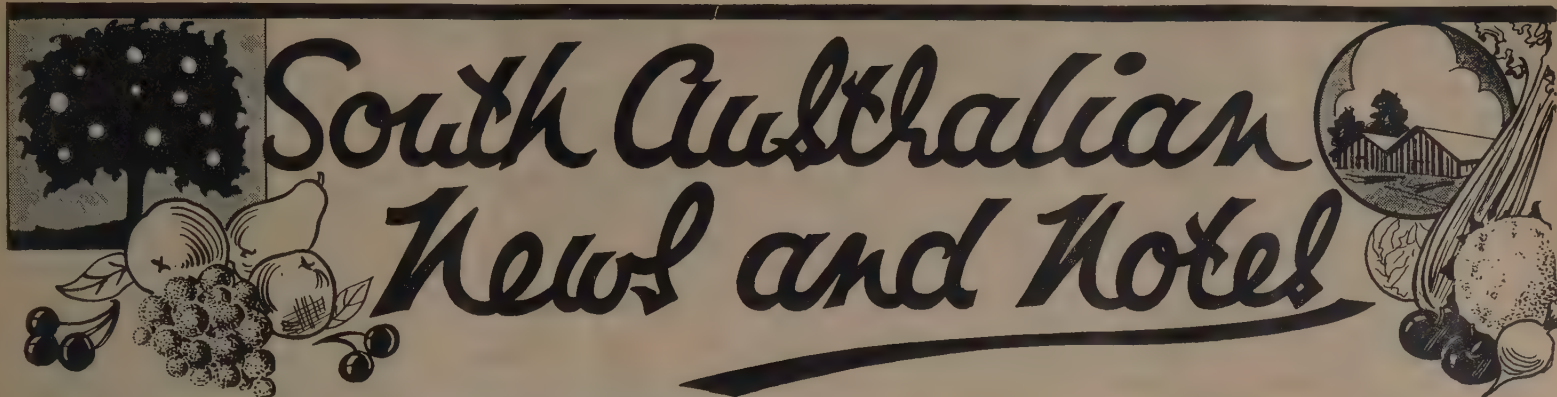
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South Australian News and Notes

INCLUDING OFFICIAL NOTES AND REPORTS FROM THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN FRUITGROWERS' & MARKET GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION.

The South Australian Fruitgrowers' & Market Gardeners' Association Incorp.

MONTHLY EXECUTIVE MEETING

THE APRIL MEETING of the Executive Committee of the above Association was held in Board Room, 288a Rundle-street, Adelaide, on Friday, April 28, 1939, at 10.30 a.m.

There were present Messrs. W. J. Bishop (President), C. Stanford, G. H. Schultz, H. B. Robson, C. H. Ragless, W. H. Ind, R. A. Cramond, R. Hannaford, G. T. Pitt, N. T. Hobbs, H. N. Wicks, E. L. Giles, L. J. Wicks, J. Turner, and Secretary.

Apologies received from Messrs. S. M. James and C. J. Pitt.

Correspondence: Letter from Loveday Annual Licence Blockers, Barmera, dated April 25, applying to be made an Affiliated Body of the Association.

Mr. W. H. Ind moved "That the application be granted." Mr. G. H. Schultz seconded. Carried.

Request from the Dept. of Commerce, Canberra, for a weekly market report covering the markets in Adelaide.

Mr. J. B. Randell moved "That the Secretary supply the desired information each week." Seconded Mr. G. H. Schultz. Carried.

Letter dated April 4 from the Royal Agricultural and Horticultural Society of S.A. expressing appreciation of the Association's promise of special prizes for the Apple Packing Competitions at the 1939 Royal Show. Received.

A statement showing fruit held in cold storage in S. Aust. and N.S.W. to 31/3/39 was received from the Department of Agriculture.

A letter from the Government Produce Dept., enclosing an extract of a report received from the Trade Commissioner (Sir Charles McCann) concerning Peas was read, and it was resolved that same be handed on to the Apple and Pear Section.

A further letter dated April 1 from the Produce Dept. enclosing extracts from letters received from the Trade Commissioner in London dealing with berry fruits and shelled Peas.

Mr. R. A. Cramond moved "That same be received, and with Mr. Pope's permission same be published in the 'Fruit World'." Seconded Mr. G. Schultz. Carried.

Sectional Reports: Mr. C. Stanford, Chairman of the Tomato Section, reported that in accordance with the Rules, nominations for vacancies of the Committee had been called, and a new committee appointed.

Tasmanian Tourists: The Chairman reported that at the request of the Tourist Bureau the Association had assisted in mapping out tour for a party of Tasmanian Potato growers, and yesterday, April 27, he accompanied the party as guide. A most enjoyable trip eventuated, and the visitors expressed pleasure of South

Australian growing methods, and also the scenery, which they considered equal to anything in Australia.

Apple Tax: The Chairman reported that a Federal Act had been gazetted whereby all Apple growers would be compelled to submit monthly a statement showing Apple sales for that period, and a tax on these sales would be made. It was understood the tax would go towards advertising propaganda.

Messrs. J. B. Randell and H. N. Wicks added further to the Chairman's remarks.

Mr. J. B. Randell moved "That the Apple and Pear Section obtain a copy of the Act, and take whatever action it considers necessary." Seconded Mr. J. Turner. Carried.

General: Mr. R. A. Cramond thanked the Association for the use of the Board Room for meeting held in connection with the proposed erection of a cold store and packing shed at Ashton.

Finance: A statement of receipts and payments was submitted by the Secretary, together with a list of accounts for payment.

It was resolved that the account be passed for payment.

TOMATO SECTION COMMITTEE, SEASON, 1939.

Eight New Members Appointed.

Members of the Tomato Committee are appointed for a period of two years, and it is compulsory under the rules that half of the Committee retire every twelve months.

This year Messrs. A. F. Huelin, H. R. Weymouth, A. Elliott, M. Georgeff, W. Parsons, and R. B. Stanford retired by effluxion of time.

Messrs. Weymouth and Parsons did not seek re-election, and as Messrs. J. G. Potts and S. H. Davis had tendered their resignations as committeemen, nominations were called for eight vacancies.

The following were duly elected to the vacancies:—Messrs. R. B. Stanford (Fulham), A. F. Huelin (Underdale), C. R. Bishop (Torrensville), G. J. Strange (Underdale), M. Rosewarne (Underdale), A. Elliott (Payneham), G. H. Sharpe (Fulham), M. Georgeff (Fulham).

The Committee for the forthcoming season will thus comprise Messrs. C. Stanford, W. A. Hersey, Junr., K. Cooke, A. B. Fuss, R. B. Stanford, A. F. Huelin, C. R. Bishop, G. J. Strange, M. Rosewarne, A. Elliott, G. H. Sharpe, and M. Georgeff.

This Committee is a strong one, and growers will be pleased to know that their interests are being watched by men of wide experience.



Display arranged by the South Australian Fruit Marketing Association Inc., at National Flower Day, Adelaide, which was held on April 13th, 1939.

COPY OF LETTER FROM GOVERNMENT PRODUCE DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

April 1, 1939.

To the Secretary,
Fruitgrowers' and Market Gardeners' Association, Adelaide.

Dear Sir,

The following extracts from press letters received from the Trade Commissioner in London may be of interest to your Association, dealing with berry fruits and shelled Peas.

London, 18/2/39.—U.S.A. Packing & Marketing Co-operatives.

"A National survey conducted by the Farm Credit Administrations reveals the fact that there are 134 berry co-operatives in 29 States, handling principally Strawberries and Cranberries. Altogether co-operative packing and marketing association owned and controlled by American berry growers, sell fresh canned and frozen berries of a dozen different varieties worth more than 17 million dollars per annum. The frozen pack of berries of all kinds is increasing, and in the eight co-operatives in Oregon, Washington and Michigan, many million pounds of Strawberries, Blackberries, Raspberries, Loganberries, Gooseberries, etc., are frozen annually. The country's berry co-operatives have a net worth of 1,673,000 dollars, with a membership of 22,545."

London, 10/3/39—"Quick Freezing."

"The higher grade of London green-grocers' shops now stock refrigerators and sell "Quick frozen" Peas, charging 1/2 for 1 lb. shelled ready for cooking. The article is an excellent one. The Peas are carefully graded for size and are of the same degree of tenderness and are sure to develop a clientele, especially in the off-season. It occurred to me that there might perhaps be something developed along these lines by Australia."

lian Pea growers if quick freezing installations are available in Australia. The trade is not necessarily confined to Peas, but berry fruits too are being exploited by this process, particularly Strawberries. So far I do not think the same success has attended the quick freezing of Strawberries as has been the case with Peas, at least the Strawberries I sample were not so satisfactory as the Peas.

"Some few years ago U.S.A. agents made the Continental capitals a location for the development and introduction of quick freezing. In U.S.A. it has been applied to all kinds of products and small meat cuts. The demand is steadily growing, but I have always understood that the initial outlay was expensive. I believe that this difficulty will be overcome as the demand increases. Quick freezing of meat cuts applied to aeroplane delivery is revolutionising the living conditions of some of the intermediate stopping places for planes between here and Australia, South America and South Africa."

The method of dealing with these lines requires a system of "quick

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A. STUART, Secretary.

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freezing," and little has been done in Australia in this method of refrigeration. The time is rapidly approaching when it may be economical for Australia to adopt the U.S.A. methods.

The mechanical installation necessary for processing the fruit is a costly item, but, if the ideas were taken up seriously by growers, no doubt cold storage proprietors would interest themselves.

The following extract from the Data Book of the American Society of Refrigerating Engineers is quoted for your information:—

"Fruits: A large proportion of the fruits preserved by freezing are handled by cold pack method. According to usual procedure, the hulled, washed and sorted berries are mixed with sugar as they run into barrels or 30 lb. tin cans. The proportion of sugar used (in certain districts) is two parts by weight of berries to one of sugar, although some are packed 3 and 1 and 4 and 1.

"More Strawberries are cold packed than other fruit, although large quantities of red Raspberries and Cherries and smaller amounts of other berries are similarly frozen.

"Vegetables: The most recent development of the frozen food industry is the freezing of vegetables. More Peas are frozen than other vegetables, but large quantities of Lima Beans and Sweet Corn are also preserved.

"All vegetables, with the exception of Rhubarb, must be blanched sufficiently to inactivate the catalase content.

"Vegetables should be frozen at very low temperatures—20 deg. to 30 deg., and stored at 0 deg. F. or lower. Asparagus required storage at even lower temperatures if they are to be kept in first-class condition for longer than nine months."

These points are promulgated for your consideration.

Yours faithfully,

G. B. W. POPE,
General Manager.

A very marked decrease in rail transport from Shepparton has taken place. There were 55,000 cases less than last year railed this season. Only 52,511 cases of fruit were exported this year, as compared with 80,848 last season.

COPY OF LETTER FROM PRODUCE DEPARTMENT, SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

April 24, 1939.

Pear Export.

To the Secretary,
Fruitgrowers and Market Gardeners' Association, Adelaide.

Dear Sir,

The Premier, the Hon. T. Playford, has instructed this Department to draw your special attention to the following report he has just received from the trade commissioner, Sir Charles McCann:—

"I have everything arranged for Mr. Strickland's itinerary. I put three cases of South Australian and Argentine William Pears into cold stores because I particularly want him to see this variety of Pears and both grown from Australian trees (Argentine imports all her Apple and Pear trees from Australia). The Argentine is always a better article here. I presume the soil has had an effect upon the alteration in this Pear's keeping qualities, because the Argentine variety keeps sound much longer than the Australian Williams.

"Our Williams landed in splendid hard green condition this year again, and those who brought forward will make about 1/- a box profit, which will make forward business easier next season.

"Despite my persistent advice, South Australian packers will not adopt the type of pad that all Pear shipping countries are using. I sent samples of the pad out three different times, but still packers will persist in doing what they think is sufficient, but landing results is that the top tier is invariably chafed and bruised and immediately they are exposed to the air the bruised area turns black. The inattention to my instructions to use the standard Pear pad is spoiling a very carefully picked, packed, and graded shipment. Mr. Strickland's visit will help materially to clear up a few petty little details that still require adjustment by fruit shippers.

(Signed) G. A. W. POPE.
General Manager.

MARKET NOTES FOR APRIL.

Adelaide (28/4/39).

FOLLOWING favorable weather conditions, supplies of vegetables during April were in greater supply, and as a consequence prices eased considerably.

Beans especially were glutted, and cleared at the low price of 1/- per doz. lbs.; in some instances, however, an even lower price than this was obtained.

Peas, however, remained steady, but bunch vegetables generally eased in price.

Cauliflowers are now in greater supply, and the early month price of 12/- per doz. has now shortened to 4/- per doz.

Cabbages also have shown a marked decrease in price, and at the end of the month the market price was 3/- per doz.

Onions maintained a stable price throughout the month, but Potatoes eased gradually and are now selling at 11/- to 12/- cwt.

Fruit sales were even, and prices during the month showed very little variation.

Hereunder is a list of quotations ruling on the Adelaide Market on Friday, April 28, 1939.

Vegetables: Beans and Beetroot, 1/6 doz. lbs.; Cabbages, 4/- doz.; Cauliflowers, 4/- to 5/- doz.; Carrots, 1/6 doz. bunches; Parsnips, 2/- doz. bunches; Swede Turnips, 1/6 doz. bunches; Turnips and Rhubarb, 1/- doz. bunches; Leeks, 2/- doz.; Lettuce, 1/- to 1/3 doz.; Peas, 7/- to 8/- bushel; Onions, 23/- to 24/- cwt.; Potatoes, 11/- to 12/- cwt.; Celery, 3/- to 3/6 doz. heads; Pumpkin, 5/- cwt.; Trombones, 4/- to 5/- cwt.; Triambles, 6/- cwt.

Fruit: Apples—Jons. 7/- per case, Del. 7/-, Granny 7/-, Cookers 4/- to 5/-; Bananas, 25/- to 27/- per case; Grapes, 3/6 to 5/- ½ case; Lemons, 8/- ½ case; Oranges, 9/- to 10/- case; Pears, 8/- to 10/- case; Quinces, 3/8 to 4/- case; Passionfruit, 14/- case; Pineapples, 22/- case; Pie Melons, 5/- cwt.

The above prices are for f.a.q., and are for the fruit only, cases being extra.

FRUIT HELD IN COLD STORAGE.

Advice has been received from the Department of Agriculture concerning the quantity of fruit held in cool store as at March 31, 1939.

South Australia.

Apples	72,465 cases
Pears	24,883 cases
Plums	255 cases
Total	97,603 cases

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We would remind exporters desirous of shipping to Bristol, Liverpool, Hull and Glasgow that we are established at all these centres.

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SOUTH AUSTRALIA (Continued)

Mid-Murray Notes

RAIN AFFECTS DRYING OF FRUIT — USE OF SIZALKRAFT — NEW DIPPING PROBLEMS ARISE — USUAL FORMULAE FAIL TO GIVE RESULTS — REASONS FOR FAILURE TO DO SO OFFERED — REVIEW OF SEASON'S FRUIT — CROP PROSPECTS FOR ORANGES — IRRIGATION WORK IN PROGRESS — EFFECTS OF OVER-IRRIGATING — STUDY OF HYDROPONICS — WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD FOR WATER CULTURE?

(By Our Correspondent.)

RENMARK (South Australia).
20/4/39.

SINCE LAST MONTH'S NOTES were written the weather conditions for fruit drying have not improved, and although we are in the last week of April there is still a large tonnage of fruit on the racks and on the drying greens. For the past fortnight the dehydrating plant of the Renmark Fruit Growers' Co-operated Packing House has been busy finishing off the fruit which had reached the stage when it could not possibly have been dried by ordinary means.

I do not know what we would have done without the aid of Sizalkraft this year, for the rains have thoroughly saturated the ground, which, in the circumstances, renders the ordinary hessian quite useless for finishing off.

Sizalkraft is a waterproof paper reinforced with sizal hemp, and it doesn't matter how wet the ground is, fruit placed on this material will dry, even by the aid of the present weak rays of the sun. The sizalkraft purchased this year is not up to the quality purchased a few years ago, and has the appearance of less sizal hemp reinforcement, which makes it tear more easily. In spite of this, however, it has been a boon to fruit-growers in the irrigation areas.

Dipping Methods.

Nearly every year some new problem presents itself, either in the production of vine fruits or in the behaviour of the fruit after being dipped. Growers who have been in the habit of using the modified dip—that is, the caustic soda-potash combination—found it necessary to use a far larger quantity of caustic soda than normally to crack the fruit.

Where this was not done, and growers relied on the formula of other years, the fruit became under-dipped, and took longer to dry than it should have done, presenting, at the same time, a fairly large proportion of what are known as "blobs"—berries which take considerably longer to dry than the rest of the bunch, and usually dry a dark color.

Users of the cold potash dip have been very critical about the behaviour of Sultanas which have been dipped with this solution plus the incorporation of a "wetters"—potassium linoleate. The fruit did not have the bloom removed, a condition looked for when using this dip, and it took a long time to dry. When it did eventually dry, the color was dark and had the appearance of being under-dipped.

Complaints have also been made by growers who used emulsified oil for the first time in the cold dip instead of emulsifying their own olive oil.

The general impression among growers is that the "wetters" and

the emulsified oils break down the olive oil factor to such fine particles that it washes off readily by rain, and unless it is sprayed immediately afterwards, the fruit takes longer to dry, and darkens.

In my opinion the failure to obtain better results this year is due neither to the "wetters" nor the emulsified oils, but to the peculiar condition of the fruit itself—a condition probably not experienced since the cold potash dip has been used commercially on the River.

Effect of Drought.

Theorising over the matter it would appear that during the two intense heat waves which we experienced this Summer, it was necessary for the fruit to set up a protective barrier, which rendered the skin of the Grape abnormally tough, and this toughness became responsible for the larger quantity of caustic soda necessary in the modified dip to crack it, and also rendered it more difficult to treat with the cold dip.

If this theory is incorrect, it may be due to a combination of abnormal weather conditions—heat followed by a tropical deluge—which may be responsible for the fruit failing to respond to normal treatment.

In consequence of the heat and rain, the main bulk sample of Sultanas in this district will probably be a two-crown standard.

Distillers Busy.

The two distilleries in the Renmark area have been busy taking in fruit for some time.

It was found necessary to take in a quantity of rain damaged Sultanas which were rendered unfit for drying. The Gordo crop up to the present time is showing about 25 per cent. down on last year's crops, whereas the Baumé is about the same as last year. A start was made on Doradillos last week, and deliveries have been coming in steadily.

In a normal year the dried fruits are well away by the time the Doradillos have to be picked, but in this season the work has to be divided between the drying green and the picking for the distillery. Heavy dews every night make it necessary to cover up the fruit on sizalkraft and spread it out again next morning, which all adds to the harvesting costs.

Seasons Review.

On the whole, a review of the season would be somewhat as follows:—

Currants turned out to be quite a normal crop, with a better quality than for many years past. The early picked fruit sustained no rain damage whatever, whereas the late picked fruit will mostly come into the one crown grade.

Apricots were decidedly light.

Pears were exceptionally heavy—a great proportion of which was disposed of to the canners, and the small fruit of 2½ in. was readily bought up by the fresh fruit operators. Pears which were dried have turned out a good sample, growers having realised during the past few years that the dominating factor in this respect is dependent almost entirely on this fruit being adequately sulphured.

Sultanas were only a moderate crop to begin with, and the heat reduced individual tonnage even further. However, where soil moisture was kept constant, no reduction in crop occurred. Little mould damage occurred with this fruit, but it possessed a peculiarity never before experienced, which rendered it a lower grade than the fresh fruit indicated. Two-crown will be the bulk standard in this district, with a small proportion of four-crown which was picked before the rain.

Gordos will probably be 75 per cent. of last year's total, a fair proportion of which has been dried. The remainder will be converted into wine and spirit at the various wineries in the district. The quality of this fruit indicates that the wine will be of a particularly good quality, the fruit itself has been perfectly sound, while the weather conditions during fermentation have assisted the winemakers in producing a vintage of outstanding quality.

Doradillos are heavier than last year, and will probably be up a little in Baumé density, which means that a greater proportion of spirit per ton of fruit treated will be extracted.

Washington Navel Oranges show only a fair crop, and will not be up to last year's total. They are coloring now, and judging from the tests made recently, regarding their state of maturity both for juice content and the relation of acids to sugars, it will not be long before a start is made in harvesting this fruit. Provided that these Oranges come up to the standard of maturity laid down by Governmental regulations, I cannot see any objection in resorting to artificial means of coloring. There is a section of growers who do not like fruit being colored in gas chambers, but from a logical point of view this practice would place fruit on the market earlier than from tree colored fruit, and would therefore lengthen the marketing period—a condition much to be desired from everyone's point of view.

Although this has a greater advantage in years of a heavy crop, a lengthened period of marketing tends to steady the price, even with a medium crop, and consequently prices are more stable throughout the season.

Irrigation.

The open cut main drain in the Block E area of the Renmark Irrigation Settlement is being proceeded with in a satisfactory manner. For a long time a double shift has been at work with the mechanical drain scoop. This has been made possible by the installation of powerful lights, enabling the operator to get a perfect vision of the progressive work.

The Block E area, which has, as an extension, the Chaffey area, comprises one of those strips of delta land which at some time must have comprised the old course of the River.

Almost anywhere in these areas can be found a seam of white sand at varying depths, which forms a natural, but slow, drainage towards the River.

Before the River locks were put in, these seams of sand gradually took away in the Winter the surplus soil water put there during the irrigating period during the Summer season. The operation of the locks almost coincided with the universal practice of late Autumn and Winter watering for the purpose of growing cover crops, and the belief is held in many quarters that the locks are wholly responsible for the accumulation of soil water in recent years, which made it necessary to instal a drainage system.

After a series of tests carried out by Messrs. A. L. Tisdale, M.Ag.Sc., and A. Ingerson (officers of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research), the fact has been established that no connection exists between the Lock Pool level and the surplus soil water in Block E and Chaffey.

While this is an established fact, there is still a supposition that pool level is indirectly and partly responsible for a slowing up of what was once a natural get away in Ral Ral Creek, and tending to retard natural drainage.

There is no doubt, however, that injudicious watering has greatly aggravated the situation, and owing to the fact that a common underground basin exists, into which the subsoil water finds its way, the sins of one "water hog" may damage land situated at some distance from the actual source of evil.

"All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." The "Jacks" in the fruit-growing industry are going to indulge in a monster bowling carnival lasting a week. From a small beginning a few years ago, the Renmark Bowling Carnival has developed into one of the biggest fixtures in the State, and has attracted both a large number of metropolitan and country bowlers.

Situated on the river bank overlooking a majestic expanse of water, the rinks have been proclaimed to be amongst the most picturesque surroundings of any in Australia.

A study of

Hydroponics (Water Culture)

is finding a great many followers in Australia, just as it has made tremendous strides in the U.S.A. in recent years. Hydroponics is a word coined by Professor Gericke, the originator of the principle of growing vegetable plants and flowers without the aid of soil.

Wooden or metal containers are filled with ordinary water having some substance like peat moss or straw, and sawdust as a stabiliser for assisting the roots to spread. The necessary plant nutrients are dissolved in the tank, and as they become used up, fresh plant foods are added to replenish the solution from a stock held in reserve. As most of the minor soil ingredients are to be found in the soil, in the practice of water culture these have to be added.

The main plant foods such as phosphate potash and nitrogen have to be supplemented with small doses of zinc, boron, copper, and manganese to get the best results.

When more is known of this interesting branch of horticulture there

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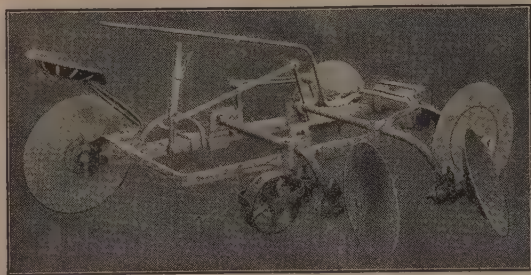
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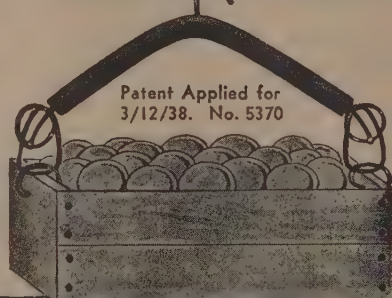
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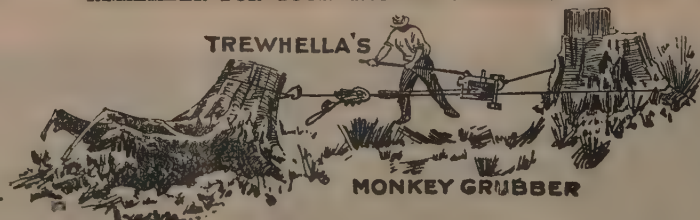
Previous experience had convinced me that to be really efficient a grubbing machine should have ample power and ropes that will meet the heavy demands required of them. I found that shovel and axe work is very costly either by itself or in conjunction with a machine. The machine that offered these features with a host of others, was **THE "MONKEY" GRUBBER.**

It gave me the power of 260 pairs of hands in a simple and compact form; the lever is short, so that I am able to stand firm-footed and get the full stroke. There are two speeds in the machine, as well as an automatic release that allows me to let off a strain, or as the machine will work in any position, it comes in for all jobs that would require a chain block. It is taken to the job on a pair of wheels like a barn truck, and is rigged for work in a few minutes. The ropes are in lengths that I find easy to handle, and each one is fitted with hook and loop couplings, so simple and absolutely IT for effectiveness. The makers have included a sturdy snatch block with a novel method of securing to the ropes, and also a fine type of firm gripping rope shortener. The latter makes it very easy to accommodate the lengths of rope to the tree or stump being pulled, and is quickly released from the rope. The combination of so many time and labor saving features makes the "Monkey" Grubber a superior grubbing outfit.

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is no knowing to what commercial ends it can be used. Water culture opens up a big field for discussion among land workers. We are led to believe that fertility of a soil is almost entirely dependent on the activity of the enormous population of bacteria living in it. Now, with the advent of water culture it provides a theory that if the soil moisture is kept constant and the necessary plant foods are added, successful vegetable crops and flowers can be grown.

There may, of course, be another form of bacteria at work in the containers of the water tanks, but not those we are accustomed to associate with soil fertility in the ordinary way.

An expansion of water culture can be looked forward to as soon as the "hobby minded" public take it to their hearts, and from a hobby it may lead to fields of activity yet undreamed of. At present it commends itself as a practical solution of the Tomato growers' troubles, who are now obliged to move their glasshouses every few years because of nematodes. Prof. Gericke, in his experiments, grew Tomatoes to such a height that they were picked from step ladders. This sounds a "tall" story, but is cited as a fact by advocates of this form of culture.

"NEMO."

Correction: In last month's notes, Dr. Meier was reported to have said that citrus trees will do best on soils never acid than alkaline. This should read nearer acid than alkaline. —"Nemo."

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Adelaide, 18/4/39.

South Australia has exported 232,579 cases of Apples and 15,084 cases of Pears to the United Kingdom to date. The quota for later vessels has been filled, and the total shipment of Apples will not be far behind the original shipping reservations.

PICKING PASSION FRUIT.

Some growers pay great attention to the growing of Passion Fruit, but neglect vital details on the commercial or marketing side.

Fruit should not be allowed to fall from the vines, as fallen fruit quickly becomes crinkled, reducing its size and value to the retailer. By picking the fruit when it is showing half color its marketing life will be greatly increased, and its selling value raised. Where a grower has a percentage of crinkled fruit, it should be included with marked and blemished fruit and packed separately from the uncrinkled fruit. While most retailers have no outlet for crinkled fruit, there is, however, a good market otherwise for fruit of this description.

All fruit should be carefully handled and packed on the diagonal system, which gives the fruit the maximum of protection and display value, thereby enhancing its general appearance.

APPLE AND PEAR BOARD.

At the moment of writing the Commonwealth Government has not notified the names of the men selected to represent the various States on the Apple and Pear Board. The Gippsland Fruit Marketing Association has approached the Commerce Department requesting that the Victorian representation be one Apple grower and one Pear grower.

In addition to the two names submitted by the Fruitgrowers' Federation of New South Wales—Messrs. A. U. Tonking, M.L.A., and E. Ray—the New South Wales Apple and Pear Export Association has submitted the name of Mr. A. E. Herring. One will be selected from that State.

THE MARKET GROWER

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF VEGETABLE GROWERS' SOCIETY OF VICTORIA, THE KOONDROOK & BARHAM TOMATO GROWERS ASSOCIATION AND THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN FRUITGROWERS' AND MARKET GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION.

Vegetable Culture

SUDDEN DROP IN VEGETABLE PRICES — HIGH COST OF WATER — APPEAL TO MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT — PLAN FOR DISTRIBUTION OF SURPLUS VEGETABLES — PLANTING OF ONIONS, CABBAGES AND CAULIFLOWERS FOR SPRING CROPS.

(By Our Correspondent.)

AT the last monthly meeting of the Vegetable Growers' Association much time was given to the discussion of the sudden drop in vegetable prices since the rain, and the effect it would have on growers who had incurred huge water bills. Much of the produce which is now being sold at glut prices was first established with artificial watering, and a great deal of produce which cost a lot of money for watering has yet to come on the market.

Just imagine Beans at 3/- per fifty pound bag, and Peas almost as cheap, and all other vegetables over supplied. This is only eight weeks after the break of the drought, so what hope have men, if paying 1/- per thousand gallons for irrigation water, when prices of vegetables fall so quickly.

Being of such a perishable nature, this produce cannot be stored or held back.

It is not reasonable in the face of these facts for the Board of Works to stick rigidly, in their autocratic way, to the old cry that "Everybody must pay the same rate."

Vegetable growers who rely on this water for their livelihood are simply caught in a trap—they must either sit down and not produce, or use the water at a price which is far too high.

As we have failed to shift the Metropolitan Board of Works each time we have been to them, members of the Vegetable Growers' Association have now decided to approach their Parliamentary representatives in an endeavour to bring about a price for water at which men can carry on profitably, instead of simply working for the Board of Works (which they do at times).

Break of Drought.

Great relief was expressed by all growers present at the meeting at the breaking of the drought, for although the rain has caused such a sharp drop in vegetable prices, all growers were sick and tired of the dry conditions which prevailed for so long, and were straining growers' resources to the limit.

The growth which has taken place is remarkable. The land having rested for so long, it has responded to Nature's watering in a most generous way, and there is now an abundance of grass for Winter feed.

When prices drop so sharply, it brings very vividly before growers' minds the need of some method to steady the market in times of sudden over supply. It is not that they wish to keep prices at such a high level that consumers cannot buy them freely, but it is quite certain that when householders purchase a medium-sized Cabbage for 3d. or a large one for 6d., they are getting good food value for their money, at a price within everybody's reach. However, when the big Cabbage drops to 3d. and the medium one is not saleable, the grower does not receive the cost of production.

Depot Plan.

Some few years ago there was a proposal to establish a depot at the market where growers could deposit their surplus vegetables, and be given credit for the quantity deposited. This

produce would then be sold to country buyers or taken to the suburban markets and be sold at cheap rates, but not at glut prices. In this way the over supply would reach the people who are most in need of it, and it certainly seems a favorable time to reconsider this or some other proposal to relieve the situation.

Planting

has been going on very freely since the break of the drought, and it is now an excellent time to plant several sorts of vegetables.

Onions, being very dear, will no doubt receive a good deal of attention. The ground for this crop of flat white Onions should be of a sandy nature, worked up to a fine tilth, and not too rich at time of planting. A dressing of superphosphate at the rate of five cwt. to the acre, is a sound method, and often times prevents the Onion Rot in the roots, which is very prevalent if the ground

Planted in rows 4ft. apart and 18 inches between the plants (7,240 plants per acre), this crop yielded 825 cases of Tomatoes per acre. Each plant averaged 25 marketable Tomatoes.

(Illus. courtesy Victorian "Journal of Agriculture.")

is over supplied with nitrogen in the early stage of the plants' growth. Plants should be put in rows ten inches apart, with the plants 4 inches apart. When planting, cut the roots back, leaving only $\frac{1}{2}$ inch of root on the plant; cut the long ends off the leaves, but do not cut down so low as to injure the heart of the plant. Lay the root of the plant on the place where it is to be planted, holding the leaves with the left hand, place the first finger of the right hand on the plant where the root comes out of the plant, and push it down into the earth to the depth of one inch. Pack a little earth around the plant pressing it in lightly, so that it will not pull out without offering some little resistance. It is necessary to see that the earth is tight round the roots, for if an air pocket is left, it is most unlikely that a good strike will be obtained, unless there is heavy rain.

When the plants have struck away and sent up new leaves, a dressing of blood manure or blood and bone manure, at the rate of five cwt. to the acre, should be sown down between the rows, and hoed in. Onions are surface feeders, so it is much better to manure them by top-dressing, and working, than to have too much manure under them.

Cabbage for the Spring should now be planted. East Ham (or Irish East

Ham) are the best sorts to plant now, and these varieties very seldom fail.

The rows should be three feet apart and the plants two feet from each other, it is false policy to plant any closer, for it does not allow the plant to stool out and make a heart, but forces it unnaturally up into the air. Two weeks after the plant has been put in, a dusting with arsenate of lead and nicotine is very beneficial as during the striking period aphids and grubs often attack the plants.

Cauliflowers for the Spring should also be planted now and treated in a manner similar to that recommended for Cabbage. Metropole is the best variety for the Spring, but any Cauliflower that cuts in July can be used for the Spring crop, especially if it is a well-covered type.

N.S.W. POTATO CROP.

Better Than Anticipated.

It is anticipated that the Potato crops in N.S.W. will give a better yield than anticipated, as they have recovered remarkably since the drought.

Although the yield will be lighter than previous years, the crop will relieve the present position on the Sydney Potato market..



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BEAN PRODUCTION IN QUEENSLAND.

THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE of Queensland Beangrowers, held in the offices of the Committee of Direction of Fruit Marketing, Brisbane, recently agreed that any Beans or Peas from growers in Queensland, and/or North coast of N.S.W. should be sold by weight, and not on the case basis. It was also desired that full publicity should be given to the list of accredited agents, and that provision be made for the growers' representatives on each market to be called in to inspect faulty consignments within four hours of the opening sale of the first available market after receipt of the Beans or Peas.



TOMATO GROWING IN N.S.W.

North Coast Crop Valued at £57,000.

Demand Now Absorbs Production, But Canning Facilities Will Be Provided Should There be Overproduction.

Over 190,000 half-cases of Tomatoes were despatched from North Coast districts of N.S.W. to Sydney and Brisbane markets during the past season.

Tomato growers in the Central North Coast Tomato, Fruit, and Vegetable Society's district have received over £57,000 for their crops. The price kept up right throughout the season, as much as 25/- per half-case being received in the early stages. So far production has not exceeded the demand for these high quality Tomatoes. However, should there be overproduction the Society proposes to provide facilities for canning, etc., for which a reserve fund is being built up.

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It was also approved that provision be made for the growers' representatives to inspect the agents' books following a complaint in writing, and that agents were not to support any bulk loading transport service other than those of the Bean Growers' Federation, and the C.O.D.; also that there be a service fee of 1d. for N.S.W. only. It was also agreed that agents should not have canvassers.

Other matters dealt with included account for service fee to be rendered monthly, dissemination of information in respect to both Queensland and N.S.W. loadings to the various agents by the B.G.F.; both organisations to supply the agents with complete lists of Bean growers in both States; the right for a special committee to investigate any complaint against an agent, and for the diversion of a growers' consignment should the agent as a result of the inquiry be removed from the list; B.G.F. agreed not to sell Beans in competition with the agents. Complaints were made as to the facilities at Clapham for a transshipping centre.

Mr. Barnes, Director of Fruit Culture, and Mr. Simmonds, Chief Pathologist of the Department of Agriculture, attended and discussed the matter of fertiliser experiments and Bean seed production with the conference.

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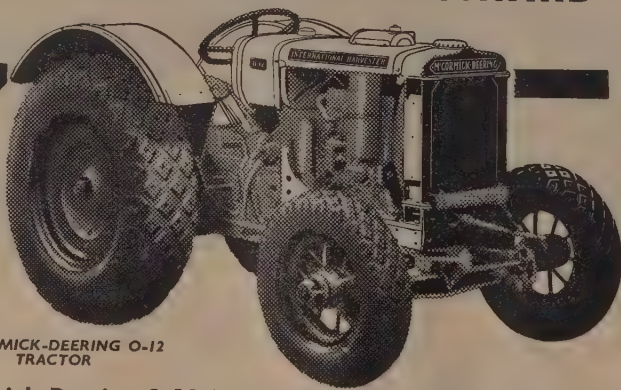
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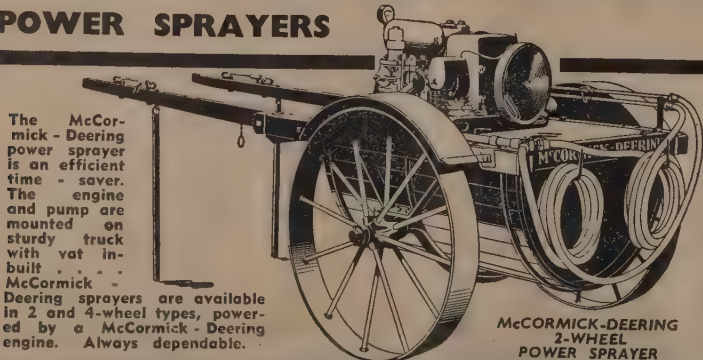
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Mr. Simmonds stated that the Bean seed production scheme had not been successful. He considered that for such a scheme to be successful, growers would need to be guaranteed an attractive price per bushel, the determination of the quantity of seed likely to be required, the selection of a suitable district, and provision of selected seed for the growers to sow. It was suggested that £3 would be an attractive price, but the Manager pointed out that certified seed had yet to prove such a premium over commercial varieties, and he considered that the Department should be responsible for such guarantees. Mr. Simmonds stated in reply that the Department would not be prepared to put in any work on the subject, unless an attractive guarantee were offered.

It was finally decided that the C.O.D. pay 60/- per bushel for a limit of 100 bushels produced under the scheme.

GROWING CAULIFLOWERS IN N.S.W.

Useful Cultural Hints.

Importance of Locally Raised Varieties.

During the recent dry, hot Summer in N.S.W., Cauliflower growers suffered very severe losses in seedlings.

Regarding the planting of seedlings for the Winter crops, Mr. J. Douglass, Vegetable Expert of the Department of Agriculture, urges growers to pay more attention to their seed-bed work than has been the case heretofore. He recommends that the soil should be treated with magnesium limestone to sweeten it and provide a lime and magnesium content for the use of the seedlings. Rotted organic matter and a light dressing of superphosphate will greatly increase the fertility of the seed-bed soils.

"The next important item," states Mr. Douglass, "is to plant the seed in rows spaced six inches apart. The object of this row planting is, first of all, to ensure that every seed is buried to a depth of half an inch, and, secondly, to enable the grower to cultivate between the rows after watering, with the object of eliminating weeds and forcing the growth of the plants."

In conclusion, Mr. Douglass states that locally produced varieties of Cauliflowers are vastly superior to any imported varieties. The whole of the varieties grown in the Hawkesbury Valley are all of local origin. Unfortunately, however, owing to the bad season and the heavy mortality of seedlings, the supply of local seed is almost exhausted.

When you next meet a man all puffed up with conceit, just remember (or remind him), that the body of an ordinary 10-stone man consists of:—

Sufficient water to fill a 10-gallon barrel.

Enough fat for seven bars of soap.

Carbon for 9,000 lead pencils.

Phosphorus to make 2,200 match-heads.

Magnesium for one dose of salts.

Iron to make one medium sized nail.

Sufficient lime to whitewash a chicken coop.

Sulphur enough to rid one dog of fleas.

Total cost of the whole, five shillings, which makes one feel rather small.

World's Production and Consumption of Nitrogen

Popularity of Sulphate of Ammonia.

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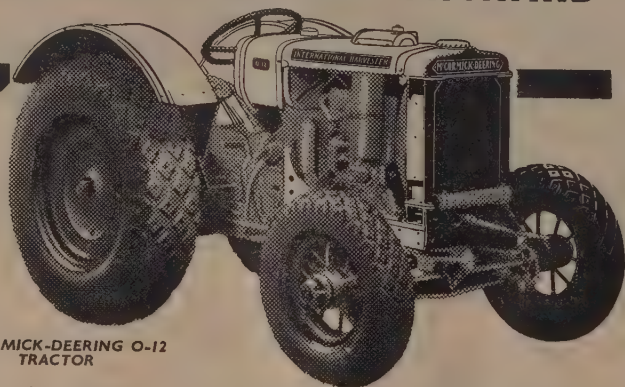
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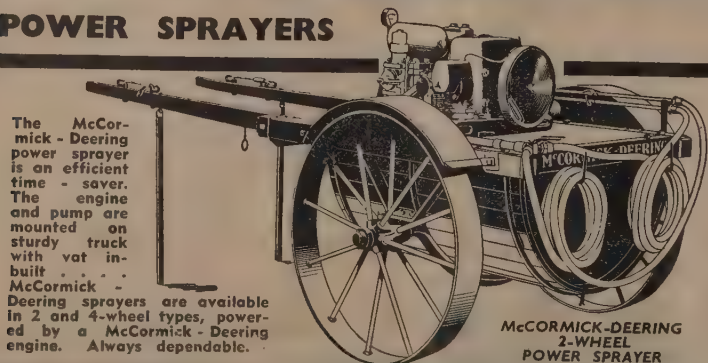
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Mr. Simmonds stated that the Bean seed production scheme had not been successful. He considered that for such a scheme to be successful, growers would need to be guaranteed an attractive price per bushel, the determination of the quantity of seed likely to be required, the selection of a suitable district, and provision of selected seed for the growers to sow. It was suggested that £3 would be an attractive price, but the Manager pointed out that certified seed had yet to prove such a premium over commercial varieties, and he considered that the Department should be responsible for such guarantees. Mr. Simmonds stated in reply that the Department would not be prepared to put in any work on the subject, unless an attractive guarantee were offered.

It was finally decided that the C.O.D. pay 60/- per bushel for a limit of 100 bushels produced under the scheme.

GROWING CAULIFLOWERS IN N.S.W.

Useful Cultural Hints.

Importance of Locally Raised Varieties.

During the recent dry, hot Summer in N.S.W., Cauliflower growers suffered very severe losses in seedlings.

Regarding the planting of seedlings for the Winter crops, Mr. J. Douglass, Vegetable Expert of the Department of Agriculture, urges growers to pay more attention to their seed-bed work than has been the case heretofore. He recommends that the soil should be treated with magnesium limestone to sweeten it and provide a lime and magnesium content for the use of the seedlings. Rotted organic matter and a light dressing of superphosphate will greatly increase the fertility of the seed-bed soils.

"The next important item," states Mr. Douglass, "is to plant the seed in rows spaced six inches apart. The object of this row planting is, first of all, to ensure that every seed is buried to a depth of half an inch, and, secondly, to enable the grower to cultivate between the rows after watering, with the object of eliminating weeds and forcing the growth of the plants."

In conclusion, Mr. Douglass states that locally produced varieties of Cauliflowers are vastly superior to any imported varieties. The whole of the varieties grown in the Hawkesbury Valley are all of local origin. Unfortunately, however, owing to the bad season and the heavy mortality of seedlings, the supply of local seed is almost exhausted.

When you next meet a man all puffed up with conceit, just remember (or remind him), that the body of an ordinary 10-stone man consists of:—

Sufficient water to fill a 10-gallon barrel.

Enough fat for seven bars of soap.

Carbon for 9,000 lead pencils.

Phosphorus to make 2,200 match-heads.

Magnesium for one dose of salts.

Iron to make one medium sized nail.

Sufficient lime to whitewash a chicken coop.

Sulphur enough to rid one dog of fleas.

Total cost of the whole, five shillings, which makes one feel rather small.

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Seasonable Orchard Notes

ORCHARD HYGIENE TO CONTROL CODLING MOTH — COVER CROPS — BLEACHING WALNUTS — MARKETING PASSIONFRUIT.

(By L. J. Provan, B.Agr.Sc., Senior Horticultural Instructor, Victorian Department of Agriculture.)

This season late varieties of Apples have benefited by the February and March rains, and growers are not so anxious to harvest them as early as in past years. Some growers commenced picking Yates during the first week of April last season, because shippers desired early consignments for the London market. Such early harvesting is not in the best interests of this and other varieties, because full flavor and quality will not develop in the picked fruit. So writes Mr. L. J. Provan, B.Agr.Sc., Senior Horticultural Instructor, in the "Journal of Agriculture," Victoria.

Another reason, this season, why growers are not picking so early is that Codling Moth has been less prevalent in March, which is usually a

particularly favorable month for moth activity.

The decrease in Codling Moth population in the Autumn was due probably to the effects of the extremely high temperatures in the first half of January. These temperatures coincided with a period of moth activity.

The apparent lull in moth activity experienced in March, however, should not cause growers to relax orchard hygiene.

The opportunity exists now, to still further depress the moth population by destroying over-wintering larvae and pupae sheltering under bark, in props, cases, and in debris on, and under, the trees.

Cases may be treated by dipping them in a solution of 1 lb. of washing

soda in 20 gallons of boiling water. As soon as harvesting is completed, bands should be removed from the trees and destroyed. Careful growers will examine occasional bands to determine their effectiveness in destroying larvae and pupae.

Growers who have not had an opportunity to sow cover crops can still do so while the soil retains some of its warmth. This year the high price of Beans and Peas has prevented some growers from sowing these crops, but it would be a good practice, in such cases, to sow barley or oats at the rate of 2 bushels per acre with 2 cwt. of superphosphate, and, where the soil is low in fertility, to add 1 or 2 cwt. of sulphate of ammonia or nitrate of soda. The latter nitrogenous fertilizer could be used on acid soil types in southern Victoria with beneficial results.

Apple growers in some districts have suffered losses due to a dark brown rot appearing in the calyx of the fruit. The Biologist of the Department has identified this infection as the Botrytis fungus, which has gained admittance through the calyx, and owing to favorable conditions of

NEW APRICOT VARIETY.

Mr. H. L. Hatfield, District Supervisor of Orchards (Geelong area), recently brought a new variety of Apricot named Roxburgh before the Geelong and District Fruitgrowers' Association. It is a product of New Zealand, and has achieved a very favorable record.

It was decided to purchase two dozen trees for distribution among members for different parts of the Geelong district, so that its suitability for that locality might be ascertained.

warmth and humidity, has developed rapidly. The danger of this infection is that apparently sound fruit may be packed, and after several days the fungus develops, when the case is opened many fruits will be rotten. The fungus will also develop slowly in cool store. Unfortunately, there is no known control for this disease, and in orchards where the fruit is badly affected growers should not attempt to store the apparently sound fruit.

In the north-eastern districts Walnuts will be harvested this month. They should be picked up regularly and dried thoroughly under shady and airy conditions. A good bleaching solution consists of 25 lb. chloride of lime, 18 lb. washing soda, and 50 gallons of water. This mixture is allowed to settle and the clear liquid drawn off. To this clear liquid, sulphuric acid is added at the rate of 1½ lb. to 425 lb. of the solution. Immerse the nuts for from 5 to 10 seconds and dry immediately.

Passionfruit growers are advised to adopt the new half-bushel case for packing their produce. This case is 18 in. x 5½ in. x 11½ in., and these dimensions allow for exact dozens of fruit to be packed, e.g., 16 dozens, 17 dozens, and so on per box. This case is very suitable for the local and interstate markets.

Apples for Children.

The effective lead given by State Committees of the Australian Apple and Pear Council in the distribution of Apples to children is having interesting repercussions.

The Mayor of Richmond (Cr. Carroll) recently called on the Secretary of the Apple and Pear Council for information re Apple supplies for entertaining the children of the district at a picnic. The outing and the Apples were much enjoyed.

The Mayor of Essendon followed, with a similar enterprise. Mr. W. R. Pye, orchardist, of Whitehorse-road, Croydon, stated he received a call from the Mayor of Essendon when the subject of the children's picnic and supply of Apples was considered. Mr. Pye recommended the Fameuse (Lady in Snow) variety. Sixty cases were ordered. The event was a huge success, and received considerable press publicity.

Pakenham.

Despite the fact that the district is below normal, more export Apples are being despatched from the Pakenham district than from any other area in the State. The total to the end of March was 33,000 cases, compared with 60,000 cases last year, and 43,000 in 1937. Jonathans are very light, having suffered rather severely from the dry weather, but there are some nice lots of Granny Smith, Dunns and Delicious.

"Does it cost much to have the shape of one's nose altered?" asks a correspondent. If one insults the right person, it doesn't cost anything.

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Science in Fruit Production

DWARF ROOTSTOCK SELECTION IN THE U.S.S.R. — INCREASING THE YIELD OF APPLE TREES — PASSIONFRUIT CULTURE IN KENYA.

INTERESTING INFORMATION in a condensed form is issued in the form of Horticultural Abstracts by the Imperial Bureau of Horticulture, E. Malling, Kent, England.

Hereunder we republish a few of the many interesting items:—

Dwarf Rootstock Selection in U.S.S.R. ("Sci. Fruitgrowing, Mitchurinsk, 1938, by A. P. Margolin.)

SINCE 1935 rootstocks have been studied by the Ukrainian Fruit Research Institute with a view to finding suitable dwarfing stocks for fruit trees in U.S.S.R. The experimental material was obtained from three foreign and twelve Russian research institutes. As a result seven types of the rootstocks examined were found to correspond to the Malling types II., III., IV., VIII., IX., V., and three further types of stocks (Mitchurin Paradise, Crimean, and Baba-arabskaya), which did not correspond to any of the Malling types.

Dwarfing stocks known in the Crimea under the name of "German Doucin," and Kosolapovskaya, or Lipetskaya Paradise in Lipetsk were identified as one and the same type III. Type IX. and II. were found particularly suitable for the southern regions of U.S.S.R. and II. and III. for central and northern Russia. No data are as yet available on the suitability of VIII., V., and VI. Further work will embrace careful propagation of clonal stock tests of certain stocks possibly suitable as dwarf rootstocks, testing of certain dwarf stocks for hardiness and drought resistance, biological and physiological studies carried out simultaneously in Ukraine, Crimea and Caucasus, searches for new dwarf forms among wild fruit trees and various other points.

Increasing the Yield of Apple Trees. (P. P. Kostyk, in "Fruits and Vegetables," Moscow, 1938.)

THIS IS A SUMMARY from results of field trials with Apples in Kursk District, U.S.S.R., mainly dealing with soil preparation, fertilisers, pruning and thinning and their effect on yields. Some varieties would appear to be more prone to annual bearing than others. Mitchurin's theory that the ability of a variety to produce fruits on one-year-old spurs should be regarded as a sign that the variety is

an annual cropper, has been found correct for a number of Apple varieties in this district.

Notes on Cultivation of Passionfruit in Kenya.

(J. E. A. W. Whitmore, in the "East African Agricultural Journal.")

THE PAPER DEALS MAINLY with certain practical details in the commercial cultivation of Passionfruit, *Passiflora edulis*, in Kenya. Virgin land sheltered naturally or by artificial windbreaks is to be preferred. Broad base terracing is advocated with the terraces sufficiently strong to allow of ploughing or cultivating right over them. Planting age of seedlings is four months; the nursery beds containing them should be cleared of eelworm.

A good planting distance is ten feet between the rows and 18 feet in the row. The minimum number of trellis poles is 150 per acre, their dimensions 8 ft. x 3 in., with strainers of 9 ft. x 8 ins. The intermediate posts are put 2 ft. in the ground, and the strainers 3 feet. The wire should be sufficiently strong, 8 gauge fencing wire or 10 x 12 oval steel wire being suggested.

The first pruning in young plantations should merely consist in nipping off the points of the shoots to encourage main stem growth in two or four stems. Overpruning and barring the stem of leaves has been proved to be one of the factors leading to a bad outbreak of *Rhizoctonia* root disease. The leader stems bruise easily and are liable to get sharp kinks and therefore should be treated with care. The leaders should be turned over the wire every few inches and not allowed to hang by their tendrils. The leaders should be encouraged to throw down their fruiting spurs vertically every 8 inches or so along the wire.

The second pruning should be confined to stopping back the fruiting spurs until the leaders reach the wires. Until the wire is reached the leaders are trained up vertical sticks and tied at every nine inches as they grow. In 14 months from planting cropping should have begun, and in 21 months the vines should have covered the wires. The soil must be kept well tilled and open, and if a cover crop is grown it must be kept out of the branches at the base of the terraces.

The Flowering Biology of Fruit Trees and the Acceleration of Fruiting Seedlings.

(By Ya. I. Potapenko and E. I. Zakharova, in "Sci. Fruitgrowing," Mitchurinsk, Russia.)

IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE a more rapid fruiting of seedlings they should be forced by a change of certain conditions to pass more rapidly through the different phases of the yearly cycle. In the present experiment approximately two cycles were obtained in one year with Apple seedlings, *Malus baccata* and Cherry seedlings, *Prunus Chamaecerasus* Jacq.

The study made with three *Malus baccata* seedlings taken from a lot of 3-year-old seedlings raised under the safe conditions is described here as follows:—In mid-February, 1936, the seedlings were transferred to a glasshouse, lumps of frozen earth being left on the roots. Here the seedlings started growth. On April 18, 1936, they ceased growing and were subjected from April 21, 1936, onwards, to low temperatures ranging from +3 deg. C. to +5 deg. C.

In the beginning of July, 1936, the fifth growth period of the seedlings started. This period was passed under various light conditions—one of the seedlings received light continuously (daylight and electric light), while the others received no additional lighting. In October, 1936, all three seedlings were again subjected to low temperatures, and in January, 1937, were induced to initiate their sixth growth period in the glasshouse.

The commencement of this period might have been further hastened if it had been so desired, but it was actually postponed to January, since before then glasshouse conditions were unsatisfactory for seedling development. In this growth period starting in January, 1937, one of the seedlings (that which had received continuous light treatment during the past vegetative period) flowered, and formed 10 fruits.

Two months after the beginning of this period the seedlings ceased growth and entered dormancy, and approximately one month after this the fruits (one of the seedlings—Ed.) turned red, and leaves began to fall. Thus, in the course of 11 months the seedlings completed two cycles of development which usually require a period of two years and one of the seedlings bore fruits in the fourth year from the time of seed germination. The controls did not flower in their fifth year, and will consequently not bear fruit earlier than in their sixth year. Other experiments are noted in which it was found possible to induce other seedlings planted in pots and receiving additional lighting to pass their fifth vegetative period in the third year after seed germina-

tion, but no fruits have so far been borne.

New Apple Hybrids.

(By P. E. Tsekhmistrenko, in "Sci. Fruitgrowing," Mitchurinsk, Russia.)

IN 1929, BREEDING APPLES for hardiness, high productivity, late maturity and fine flavor was started at the Mleev Experimental Station (Ukraine). For this purpose various crabs, including specimens of *Malus baccata*, *M. serotina*, *M. virescens*, *M. Soulardii* and hardy Russian varieties, were crossed with the best large fruited European and American Apple varieties. Some 46,000 hybrid seedlings have been raised so far. These seedlings represent a series of 401 combinations obtained by crossing 49 mother varieties with 81 pollinator varieties. Many reciprocal crosses have also been made, the best of them being noted here. The hybrid seedlings are raised under severe field conditions, and the final selection taken place during the first 3-5 years of fruiting of the seedlings. Thus, in the last two years, 29 hardy, large-fruited varieties with different dates of maturity (Summer, Autumn, and Winter) and producing fine quality fruit have been selected. Six named crosses are noted as showing particular promise. These appear to be very hardy, since they did not suffer from frost injuries even during the severe Winter of 1935 (thermometer registering approximately 37 degrees C.).

On the Use of Common Salt as a Fertilizer.

(By I. W. Selman, in "J. Minist. Agric.," London, 1938.)

THE VALUE OF COMMON SALT as a fertilizer in agriculture has been the subject of many conflicting statements and much confusion in the literature of the subject during the last and present centuries. Some of the reasons for this are given. The effect of sodium chloride on the soil and its effect upon the physiology of the plant are discussed, knowledge on the latter having been greatly advanced by the development of modern plant physiological technique during the past ten years. In summarizing, the author shows:—

Response of Soils to Sodium Chloride: Useful. (1) Potassium may be liberated from many clay soils and then will become available for utilisation as a plant nutrient. (2) A deflocculation of clay particles is brought about, and this is useful on relatively light soils, tending to increase the water-holding capacity of those soils. Disadvantageous. (1) The top soils of loams and clays may tend to become unduly sticky, particularly in wet seasons, making cultivation difficult.

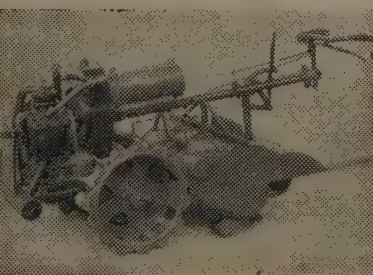
(Continued on page 24.)

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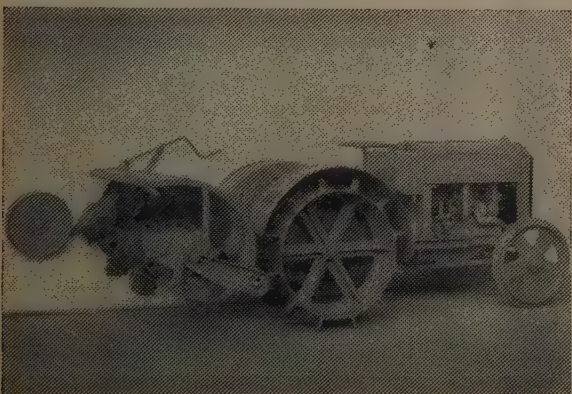
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Extract from letter received from Captain David Herbert, Peat's Ridge, via Gosford:—

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SCIENCE IN FRUIT PRODUCTION—(Continued).

The Effect of Sodium Chloride on the Plant. Useful. (1) The sodium ion has been demonstrated to be a useful, though not always an essential, plant nutrient. The response of plants that are tolerant to salt may be expected to be controlled by the levels of the other plant nutrients in the soil. (2) It is uncertain whether the slight superiority of sodium chloride over potassium chloride for sugar beet is due to the effect of salt on the soil or its action in the metabolism of the plant. (3) There is some evidence that sodium chloride increases the drought resisting properties of the leaves. Disadvantageous. (1) Chlorides exert a harmful effect on the yield and quality of Potatoes.

Studies of Fruit Bud Formation in Deciduous Fruit Trees in South Africa.

(By T. Micklem, in "J. Pomol.")

PART I: Growth and fruit bud differentiation in some varieties of deciduous fruits. By dissection of the fruit buds of Japanese Plum, Apricot, Peach, Apple and Pear at different dates it was possible to trace the internal development of fruit buds up to the resting period. Results are tabulated showing the dates at which seven defined stages of development were reached. Differentiation was found to occur shortly after the cessation of shoot growth except in the Kieffer Pear, when it was just before the cessa-

tion. Observation of other workers in the Southern Hemisphere are compared.

II: The effect of pruning and shading on fruit bud differentiation and growth in the Peregrine Peach. Neither in 1934-5 nor 1935-6 did different pruning treatments, i.e., short or long pruning, influence the time of fruit bud differentiation. Shading from May to September caused substantial increase in shoot growth. Shading of both long and short-pruned trees stimulated leaf bud development.

III: Some effects of Winter oil sprays on fruit bud formation and leaf bud development in the Bon Chretien Pear. Experiments were made both at Stellenbosch and at Groot Drakenstein in 1935 on the

effect of dormant application of oils to Pear trees. At Stellenbosch the application of 5 per cent. emulsions of raw linseed oil and a proprietary oil Pestril advanced the initiation of fruit bud formation by 2-3 weeks. Half trees sprayed showed less leaf buds remaining dormant, more fruit spur formation, increased shoot growth and greater leaf area and number of leaves per fruit spur on 2-year-old wood than the unsprayed halves. At Groot Drakenstein dormant spraying with 5 per cent. raw linseed oil, 5 per cent. seal oil, and 5 per cent. and 3 per cent. Kleenup resulted in increased cropping and fruit bud formation on young and old wood.

Orchard Tests of Mazzard and Mahaleb Cherry Understocks.

(By R. D. Anthony, R. H. Suds, and G. E. Yerkes, in "Proc. Amer. Soc. Hort. Sci." for 1937.)

COMPARISONS OF MAZZARD and Mahaleb as Cherry rootstocks have been in progress for several years in Virginia and Pennsylvania. Differences in growth and productiveness have developed, and Mazzard is indicated as the better stock of the two. In Virginia, on a clay loam over a rather hard and too retentive clay subsoil, Mahaleb induced earlier and heavier bearing, but the trees died within 10 years, while those on Mazzard survived in good condition. In West Virginia, on a fertile silt loam, well drained, two sources of Mahaleb produced different results as regards girth; in one case being almost equal to and in the other being definitely inferior to Mazzard. Trees on Mahaleb from both sources out-yielded Mazzard by 60 to 1 and 157 to 1 respectively, owing to their greater precocity. In another orchard of 122 Montmorency trees, half on Mazzard and half on Mahaleb, the trees grew excellently on both stocks. Those on Mazzard are, however, much the larger. Records of yield which has been light so far, do not show significant differences. On well-drained silt loam at State College, Pennsylvania, Schmidt trees on imported Mahaleb were more severely injured by Winter cold than those on Virginia Mazzard.

Growing Walnuts in Southern France. (By H. Roy, in "Progr. Agric. Vitic.," 1938.)

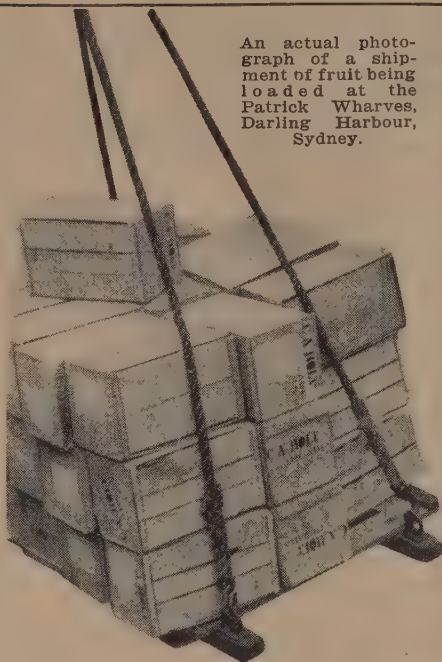
THESE FEW PAGES give an interesting account of the salient features of Walnut growing in that small district around Grenoble, in the South of France, which is famous for its Walnuts throughout the world. In the valley of the Isere the Walnut occupies situations which differ greatly as regards soil and climatic conditions and appears to thrive adequately in all of them. Figures of a census taken in 1929 show that there are in the Department of the Isere some 2,247 hectares under Walnuts, and that the production of nuts amounts to more than 60,000 quintals (i.e., nearly 6,000 tons) a year, 75 per cent. of these being sold.

Descriptions are given of the following varieties: — Mayette, Franquette, Parisienne, Chauberte, Billarde, La Culeronne, Souvenir de Congres, Noix de Vourey, Noix Meylan-aise, and Bijou. Many of these have merely a local popularity, and only the first three can really claim the name of Grenoble Walnut. They form the majority of the trees planted.

The trees are grafted, using either cleft grafting in April when the sap is not very abundant, or crown grafting rather later, with 3 or 4 scions, both of these operations taking place in the open.

Grafting on the root collar under glass results in good unions, but is not recommended, apparently in view of the premature fruiting which often occurs, and is followed by abnormal growth.

An actual photograph of a shipment of fruit being loaded at the Patrick Wharves, Darling Harbour, Sydney.



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Generally speaking, success of grafting at ground level may be put at 25 to 35 per cent., and in crown grafting at 70-80 per cent., but atmospheric conditions appear to have an enormous influence on the take. 50 per cent. will be considered an average good take.

The importance attached to grafting is shown by the fact that courses in grafting are given at the local centres of Walnut growing, and are well attended.

Rootstocks: *Juglans regia* is most commonly used, but by some experts *Juglans nigra* is preferred as being resistant to a root rot known as "Maladie du pus," and attributed by some to *Armillaria mellea*. *J. nigra* does not take the graft quite so readily as *J. regia*, but later makes magnificent trees, which incidentally come into bearing 4 or 5 years earlier than those on *J. regia*. Other stocks used with varying success are *Hybride guillot* and *Juglans Sieboldii*. The author considers that for dry superficial soils *J. regia* is best, but that given a deep rich soil *J. nigra* hastens fruit and increases cropping, the fruit also being larger and heavier. *J. nigra* is, moreover, less susceptible to the *maladie du pus*.

The trees which begin to crop in their fifth year if on *J. nigra* and in their tenth year on *J. regia*, are planted about 80 to the hectare (32 to the acre). They are manured each year, a sample amount being per tree:—Superphosphate or slag, 6kg.; cyanamide or sulphate of ammonia, 2kg.; chloride, or better, sulphate of potash, 2kg. The ground is ploughed up annually and is scarified 5 or 6 times during the Summer. After harvest the nuts are dealt with in various ways, often by co-operative methods, a large number being sent abroad even as far as America.

Blowers for Frost Protection.

(By B. D. Moses, "J. Americ. Soc. Agric. Engrs.," 1938.)

A BRIEF ILLUSTRATED account is given of the operation of frost protection blowers as used in Californian Walnut and citrus orchards. An illustration is given of a blower in a Walnut orchard. It consists of a large propeller, aero plane type, 12 ft. in diameter, directly connected with a 425 h.p. engine, mounted on a platform 50 feet above the ground. The platform is geared to the engine, and rotates about a vertical axis at a speed of about 15 revs. an hour.

A further illustration shows a smaller blower driven by a Ford V8 engine drawing air up through a central column, at the base of which is an oil furnace. There are said to be some 150 of such blowers operated at present in California.

The idea behind the system is based on the fact that, when temperature inversion is produced by radiation on cold, still nights, the air temperature increases with height from the ground and produces, as it were, a warm ceiling of air.

If blowers can be made to stir this warm ceiling, it is thought that warmer conditions may be obtained at tree level. Whether this can be kept up with the process of radiation needs to be determined.

Experiments made in Orange orchards in 1934-35 indicated the achievement of positive protection by the use of blowers.

In 1937-38 the blowers were combined with the use of furnaces at the base, the attempt being made to blow heated air down on the trees. The heat was provided by a furnace capable of burning 20-40 gallons of oil per hour. Figures of temperatures recorded are given.

The author is of the opinion that—
(1) Under conditions of temperature inversions of 10 deg. in 100 ft. elevation air temperature in orchards

THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN FRUIT MARKETING ASSOCIATION INC.

The monthly meeting of members of the Executive of the S.A.F.M.A. was held at Adelaide on April 28, 1939.

There were present: Messrs. J. B. Randell (Chairman), R. O. Knappstein, M. G. Basey, R. G. Hannaford, H. N. Wicks, A. O. Petersen, J. B. Randell, F. B. James, M. J. Vickers, A. R. Willmore, J. H. Dunning, E. Leishman, P. R. B. Searcy, F. F. Redden, C. L. Winsor, C. A. Stewien, G. Quinn, and the Secretary.

Correspondence: Letters dated April 4, from the Royal Agricultural Society, thanking the Association for the donation of a special prize for the Fruit Packing Competition at the Royal Show, and trophies for export Apples and Pears.

Letter dated March 28, from the Secretary, the Swedish Chamber of Commerce, Sydney, re Australian Apples for Sweden.

Letter from the Government Produce Department, dated April 24, giving extract from report from the Trade Commissioner, Sir Charles McCann, re Williams Pears.

Letters from Australian Apple and Pear Council dated:—

April 5, re Empire Fruits Conference, advising that Mr. Ross, who is at present in London had been asked to represent the Council and attend as an observer. It was agreed to approve of the action taken in this matter.

April 18, enclosing preliminary draft of the proposed visual education film of the Apple and Pear industry. It was agreed to advise that this Association approved of the suggested draft.

April 18, re publicity for Apples and Pears, suggesting that the funds of the Council should be made available temporarily to the extent of £1,500, to be used for publicity purposes, the amount to be recovered if necessary from the recently authorised sales tax when it comes into operation. It was agreed to approve of the suggested advance from the funds of the Council.

April 26, enclosing a copy of a statement from the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research in reference to the steps to be taken to investigate the manufacture of fruit juices in Australia.

National Flower Day: It was unanimously agreed to record in the minutes a vote of thanks to Messrs. J. H. Hobbs and L. J. Bishop for their kindness in undertaking the work in preparing the fruit and flower exhibit shown on National Flower Day.

Apple and Pear Council: The matter of finance of the Apple and Pear Council, after the new Board comes into operation, was further considered and a draft letter prepared by Mr. P. R. B. Searcy was read by the Secretary, and approved, and the Secretary was instructed to forward this to the Secretary of the Apple and Pear Council.

Australian Markets Committee: The formation of the South Australian Section of the Australian Markets Committee was further considered.

On the motion of Mr. P. R. B. Searcy, it was resolved: "That a State Marketing Committee be formed, the same to be composed as follows:—Messrs. J. B. Randell (Chairman), A. O. Petersen, F. F. Redden, F. B. James, M. J. Vickers, S. M.

can be kept 3 deg. higher with a blower mounted on a tower 40-50 ft. above the ground.

(2) That blowers of 75 h.p. size will not handle more than 10 acres, except where air drainage is very favorable; and

(3) That it may be possible effectively to combine such blowers with orchard heaters.

James, H. M. Charlick, L. J. Bishop, the Committee to have the power to co-opt others if deemed necessary."

A. G. Strickland: It was agreed to write the Minister of Agriculture asking that arrangements should be made for Mr. A. G. Strickland to return via America, to give him an opportunity of investigating the fruit industry there.

Research Sub-Committee: Mr. R. G. Hannaford reported that at the Research Sub-Committee meeting the question of Walnut Culture had been discussed, and it had also been agreed that to stimulate interest in the Research Sub-Committee a member would be appointed each month to take charge of the meeting and either write a paper or initiate a discussion on a matter of interest to the fruit industry.

Mr. M. G. Basey had kindly undertaken to initiate a discussion at the May meeting on the subject of "Cover Crops."

The next three meetings would be in charge of Messrs. R. O. Knappstein, R. G. Hannaford, and R. A. Cramond respectively.

Fruit for Colombo: Mr. J. H. Dunning drew attention to the new regulations in regard to the prohibition of the importation of fruit into Colombo, affected by insect pests, and stated that the position might be very serious as far as Australian trade was concerned.

The Department of Agriculture was taking the matter up to find out the exact position, and would advise later.

DRIED FRUITS LEGAL ACTION.

F. A. James Awarded £878, But Judge Refuses Major Claim.

Mr. Justice Dixon, in the High Court, recently entered judgment for Frederick Alexander James, fruit merchant, of Adelaide, against the Commonwealth for £878/5/7, on the grounds that fruit had been illegally seized by the Commonwealth authorities on four specific dates.

In two actions, which were consolidated, James claimed £26,000 under various headings.

The main part of the claim was concerned with the general loss to James' trade and business caused by the continual effect of the administration of the Dried Fruits Act and the regulations.

This was the part of the claim which the Judge considered had failed.

An order for general costs, except costs exclusively referable to certain issues, was made in favor of James.

The finding of fact was that in four of the seizures the fruit did not pass to the purchaser, and that in one case the fruit did pass to the purchaser.

Far-Reaching Decision.

Mr. Justice Dixon held that there was no action at common law against the Commonwealth for wrongful interference with James' business.

This was the first direct decision given in Australia on the effect of ultra vires statutes.

AUSTRALIAN DRIED FRUITS.

The Commonwealth Dried Fruits Export Control Board report that sales of Australian dried fruits registered with the London Agency of the Board cover 317 tons for the week ended April 20. 242 tons of Sultanas averaged £40/18/10 per ton. Small parcels of new season's Currants arriving in the market, and 66 tons were sold at £35/15/8 per ton, the opening quality being regarded as satisfactory. Shipments of dried fruits to overseas markets to date amount to 16,798 tons, comprising 9,474 tons of Sultanas, 7,285 tons of Currants, and 34 tons of Lexias.

AUSTRALIAN SULTANAS.

Featured in London Pantomime.

In London the "Queen of Hearts," in the pantomime of that name at the Lyceum Theatre is calling loudly every night for Australian Sultanas wherewith to make her famous tarts. "We must have those Australian Sultanas for good tarts," she declares.

Around the shelves in the stage kitchen are other Australian products in big canisters, says a report received from the Director of Australian Trade Publicity in the United Kingdom.

When at the end of the run, the "Queen" has for the last time blandly boomed her brazen pleasantries over the footlights, the management estimate that 384,000 people will have seen the show—and heard the references to Australian fruit which, incidentally, also appear in the programmes and books of the words which are sold to the audience.

NEW ZEALAND.

Factory to Process Australian Dried Fruits.

The Golden West Fruit Packing Company of New South Wales is erecting a factory on the Western Hutt-road at Petone (N.Z.), for the processing and packing of New Zealand's requirements for dried fruits. At present New Zealand imports from various countries are valued at £500,000 a year; this figure includes Prunes, Apricots, Pears, Peaches, Currants, Sultanas and Raisins.

The factory will work in co-operation with the Government and under strict Government supervision. At first only 30 or 40 men will be employed, but later fully 100 men should be required.

The factory will be opened about June by the Prime Minister, Mr. Savage.

Willie: "How do they catch lunatics, Daddy?"

Hard Boiled Dad: "With face powder, lipstick, and pretty clothes."

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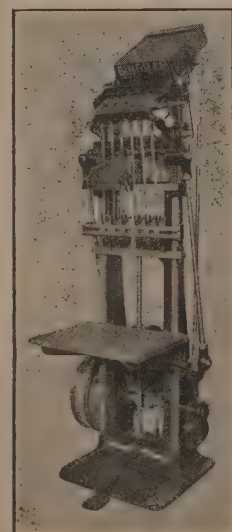
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Nearing the Half Century

FRUIT TREE NURSERY HAS EXCELLENT RECORD.

DURING 1939 the fruit tree nursery of Mr. C. J. Goodman will celebrate its fiftieth year of business. Known as the Picnic Point Nurseries, this business was established in 1889 by the late Charles J. Goodman, the son of an English horticulturist. His initiative and foresight were largely instrumental in the planting of large areas of rich flats at Bairnsdale and Bruthen, with dessert Peaches. He also established the nurseries which are so well-known not only throughout Australia and New Zealand, but in other parts of the world.

On his death in July, 1910, the management of the business was taken over by his nephew, Mr. G. W. Peart, the present proprietor of the business. For eighteen years Mr. Peart managed the business for Mrs. C. J. Goodman, and in 1928 he took over the business himself.

The Peart-Goodman association with the fruit industry has been far-reaching, the father of the present proprietor, Cr. J. W. Peart, and his uncle, Mr. T. J. Peart, were amongst the first to establish fruit orchards in Bairnsdale. Mr. Tom Peart, a younger brother of George Peart, is works manager at the Shepparton Preserving Company. A younger brother, Alf., paid the supreme sacrifice in the Great War.

The close co-operation of the Picnic Point Nurseries with the fruit industry has been of considerable importance, because it has enabled the experience gained in their own orchards to be used to the benefit of their clients in the planting of fruit trees.

It is interesting to note that for the research orchard which was planted at Tatura last year, Goodman's trees were selected for the purpose.

Messrs. C. J. Goodman's faith in fruitgrowing is indicated by the fact that they are large fruitgrowers themselves. At the present time two large orchards are under the control

of the present proprietor, Mr. G. W. Peart, consisting of 45 acres at Bruthen devoted to Lemons, canning Apricots, Apples and Pears. Varieties grown are: Lemons (Eureka and Lisbon), Apricots (Moorpark, Tilton, and Trevatt), Pears (Bartlett and Packham's Triumph), and Apples (Jonathan, Delicious, Granny Smith, Tasmania or Democrat, Gravenstein, Alexander and Yates). A further orchard of 52 acres is under cultivation at Red Hill, where Apples and Cherries are grown.

A word of appreciation should also be passed on to members of the staff of C. J. Goodman, some of whom have nearly fifty years of service to their credit. These include Mr. J. B. Nunn, the nursery foreman, who has given forty-two years of unbroken service, the fruit and vegetable foreman, Mr. A. Horn, who has been with the firm for thirty-seven years, while several others have been with the nursery for over twenty years.

Mr. G. W. Peart is well known to nurserymen and orchardists throughout Australia, and his genial personality and willingness to assist growers in all possible ways has brought him many friends from all parts of the continent.

Mr. Peart recently made a world tour, in the course of which he investigated all phases of fruit growing, packing and canning in thirteen different countries. The knowledge gained on this trip has not only been used by him in his own business, but has been freely imparted to many others.

Another section of the Picnic Point Nurseries which has grown in latter years includes the seed section, where large quantities of vegetable seeds are raised each year. Some of the special lines include Triamble Pumpkins, Long White Bush Marrows, and Queensland Blue Pumpkins. An offshoot of the nurseries is the growing of Asparagus which employs over sixty men in the rush period.

REGULATION AND MARKETING OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE.

MR. GEORGE J. EVATT, a member of the N.S.W. Water Conservation and Irrigation Commission, and of certain Marketing Boards, has, as the result of his visit to Europe, the United States of America, and Canada, collated a report on the regulation and marketing of Agricultural Produce of other countries.

His report is very thorough and comprehensive. The four headings under which the information is given are (1) Empire Preferences; (2) Regulation or "Control" of Agriculture Marketing; (3) General; and (4) Summary and Conclusions.

Under the heading of Empire Preferences, the effects of Ottawa Agreement (1932) on world trade is dealt with, also the terms of the agreement between U.K. and U.S.A. are stated. Regulation and control is dealt with in various countries—Denmark, Holland, U.S.A., Canada, Belgium, Italy, Russia, etc. With regard to Denmark it is stated that increases have taken place in plantings in orchards. The chief fruits grown are Apples (50,000 tons) and Pears (9,000 tons). Imports have decreased from 20,000 tons almost to nil.

In Italy a Government body has been established to control distribution and to regulate the wholesale markets for fruit and vegetables. Contributions of 40 per cent. of cost for construction of processing plants are authorised. In U.S.A., one of the main methods of supply control included in the Marketing Agreements

for fruit and vegetables is the adjustment of shipments. A maximum volume of shipment is fixed for each period, and pro-rated among handlers and growers. Limiting or prohibiting the shipment of inferior grades and sizes is included.

Publicity in U.K.

The officer in charge of publicity, Mr. A. E. Hyland, states the report, is very able, and there is no doubt that he uses the money to the best advantage throughout Great Britain. Whether the amount is enough to do the thing properly is another question. Mr. Evatt's opinion that if the funds were doubled that too much would not be expended, to permit of entering every field available and adopting to the full all the newest methods, costly though they be.

Among the conclusions arrived at are (1) that one of the outstanding features of the world's economy in recent years has been the planning of "agriculture," using the word in its widest sense to include all forms of land production; (2) that the national aspect, embracing all the foregoing, is also prominent because vital to have ample foodstuffs; (3) heavy subsidies have been paid to primary industries by Great Britain, reaching in some years £A25,000,000. This has been mostly to improve marketing. In addition, assistance has been afforded to increase soil fertility; (4) as an indication to the importance laid by some countries on regulation of production, etc., the United States of America, in its current budgeting, has provided over £A220,000,000 from taxation to assist agriculture.

CANNED FRUIT NEWS AND NOTES

Duty on Tomato Juice

Application for Higher Imposit

EVIDENCE was heard before the Tariff Board in Melbourne and Sydney last month on a request that the same rates of duty be imposed on Tomato juice as those applicable to fruits and vegetables covered by Tariff Item 54 (a), viz.:—Fruits and Vegetable n.e.i., including ginger (preserved in liquid, or partly preserved or pulped)—

1. Qtr.-pints and smaller sizes, per doz., B.P.T. 1/3, G.T. 1/9.
2. Half pints and over quarters, per doz., B.P.T. 2/6, G.T. 3/6.
3. Pints and over half pints, per doz., B.P.T. 5/-, G.T. 7/-.
4. Qtrs. and over pints, per doz., B.P.T. 10/-, G.T. 14/-.
5. Exceeding a quart, per gal., B.P.T. 3/-, G.T. 4/3.
6. When preserved in spirituous liquid additional duty to be paid on the liquid, per gal., B.P.T. 30/-, G.T. 31/-.

Importations into the Commonwealth of goods covered by the references were as follows during the year ended May, 1938:—Canada, 540 gallons, Palestine 7½ gallons, and U.S.A. 881½ gallons.

At the Melbourne enquiry, Mr. C. F. Longmore, of Francis Longmore & Co. Ltd., gave evidence on behalf of several firms in favor of the application, which was opposed by Mr. Mahaffey, of Nathan's Merchandise (Vic.) Pty. Ltd.

Evidence in Sydney.

Giving evidence in Sydney, T. R. Boyce, managing director of Hy. Jones & Co. Pty. Ltd., said his firm was hoping to develop a wide demand for Tomato juice in Australia. Unless a tariff was imposed, America would come in, and, by under-selling, swamp the market.

H. Johnstone, testifying on behalf of the Joint Committee for Tariff Revision, stated that the duties at present existing under Item 79 were B.P. 15 per cent., Intermediate 30 per cent., and General Tariff 33½ per cent. The sale of Tomato juice was a comparatively new innovation on the market. It was not packed as a commercial product in America before 1925 but the beverage had since become popu-

lar, over 13,000,000 cases having been sold in 1937. The importation of Tomato juice into Australia had only taken place over the last two or three years. The total protection against the American packs was 96 per cent. for 12 oz. cans and 103 per cent. for 20 oz. cans. In the case of the Canadian packs the protection amounted to 82 per cent. and 91 per cent. respectively. His committee was informed that consumers preferred to pay the extra price for the imported article.

Protection Adequate.

His committee was opposed to any alterations on the grounds that the existing protection was already excessive, that the total sales so far indicate that a possible demand would not result in any appreciable additional production within Australia, even if the right variety of Tomato could be grown locally, and it was not possible for Australia to manufacture everything within her own borders unless she were prepared to sacrifice the production of the whole of these commodities.

S. L. Frost, commercial consultant to Libby, McNeill and Libby, Inc., c/o Swifts Ltd., Sydney, said Tomato juice had been brought out of the luxury class in Canada and the United States, and it was now regarded as a health drink. There was room for everybody in Australia, and the lower the retail price, the more juice would be consumed. The price of Tomato juice in Sydney was ridiculous. It was excessive.

F. C. Elsworth, a director of Henry Jones & Co. Pty. Ltd., and chief technologist to the company, stated that his firm commenced to make Tomato juice three years ago. Unfortunately most of the Tomatoes planted specially for the trade this year were now under feet of water, and the crop would be wiped out. Henry Jones & Co. had spent a lot of money in improving Tomato varieties.

C. D. Clarton, of Swifts Ltd., stated that Swift's had pioneered the sale of Tomato juice in Sydney in 1930.

The enquiry was declared closed.—"Australian Food Manufacture."

THE FIRST TINNED FOODS.

New light on the origin and early products of the canning industry are made available in Publication No. 85 just issued by the International Tin Research and Development Council entitled "The Examination of Some Historic Tinned Foods."

The report is a reprint of papers recently read before the Food Group of the Society of Chemical Industry by Professor J. C. Drummond and others.

The papers describe how a number of tins of meats and vegetables which had reposed in the Royal United Services Museum and the National Maritime Museum, London, were opened and submitted to chemical and bacteriological analysis. Two of the tins, one containing veal and the other carrots, had accompanied Sir Edward Parry, the Arctic Explorer, on his famous expeditions in search of the North-West Passage in 1824, and when opened they proved to be still in "what one could fairly call perfect condition." The reports of the various analyses are given in full detail with photographs of the actual cans. The first part of the booklet recounts briefly the discovery of the principles of the canning process by Nicholas Appert in France and their adaptation by a celebrated English

engineer and Vice-President of the Royal Society, Bryan Donkin, so that robust canisters of tinplate could be used instead of Appert's fragile glass jars. So successful was Donkin that within seven years Donkin's tinned foods factory at Bermondsey, the first in the world, was supplying tens of thousands of large tins to the Navy for Australian and Arctic expeditions and later as "medical comforts" for crews of ships on ordinary voyages.

There are some interesting sidelights on the theories advanced at the time for the success of the canning process and also a report upon some dried vegetables in tins which were packed for the army during the Crimean War.

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CANNED FRUIT EXPORTS.

Exports of canned fruits from Australia, from the commencement of the current season (January 1) to March 31, 1939, are as follows:—

Country.	Apricots. Cases.	Peaches. Cases.	Pears. Cases.	Fruit Salad. Cases.	Pine- apples. Cases.	Total. Cases.
U.K.	40,870	125,267	103,965	77	12,130	282,309
N.Z.	1,913	4,939	275	7	244	7,378
Canada	833	3,084	300	395	5,971	10,583
East	503	2,213	1,450	190	22	4,378
Misc.	219	415	565	21	44	1,264
Total	44,338	135,918	106,555	690	18,411	305,912

U.S.A. CANNING INDUSTRY.

Interesting Educational Publicity Methods in Pennsylvania.

The consumer educational campaign sponsored by all Pennsylvania canners is receiving excellent support from all canners of the State, according to reports received at the Department of Agriculture.

Approximately 6,000 letters were sent to Pennsylvania hotels, restaurants, women's clubs, teachers of home economics, chambers of commerce, service clubs, wholesale and retail distributors and to other interested consumer or distributor groups. The purpose was to better acquaint the public with the merit of the products, and to illustrate the benefits resulting from greater patronage of the canning industry.

In addition to the appeal by mail, much publicity was disseminated throughout the State by means of the press and radio.

Comments from many quarters indicates a good response.

NEW CANNING LINES.

Burns and Company, the well-known Winnipeg firm of canners, have begun the distribution of an addition to their line of canned meat products — Burns Chicken Fricassee. The new product, which is packed in Calgary, is composed chiefly of chicken, with cubed potatoes and carrots, and a butter sauce added. The Winnipeg plant has also begun the manufacture and distribution of two new cooked meat products. They are a delicatessen sandwich loaf, known as Vermont Loaf, and composed of beef, veal and pork, and a liver and cheese loaf. The products have had a good reception on their introduction.

GRAPE JUICE.

Now in Tins.

Full strength Grape juice in cans is the newest development in juice packaging in U.S.A. Royal purple is the juice color, almost like the home-pressed Grape juice one squeezes out for jelly. The beverage has been carefully aged, sweetened with cane sugar, then pasteurised. It has delicate bouquet, not a hint of the can about it in either the smell of the taste.

PRESERVING ORANGE JUICE.

Cold Storage Recommended.

EXHAUSTIVE EXPERIMENTS were carried out last year by Messrs. A. Joslyn and G. L. Marsh, at the Fruit Products Laboratory of the University of California, to ascertain the best methods of preserving Orange juice. Many highly technical processes were tried, including irradiation with ultra-violet light and heating the juice to different temperatures.

The nett results were the following conclusions:—

Canned Orange juice can be kept from deteriorating for a considerable time by suitable heat treatment.

Freshly canned Orange juice, irrespective of the process, is satisfactory, but deteriorates in quality during storage. Cold storage is recommended.

Juice packed in citrus enamel cans is superior to that packed in plain tins. Some enamels used commercially in California are satisfactory for a storage period of about a year.

TINNED APPLES.

Ready for Use for Culinary Purposes.

FOR a considerable time past Tasmania has been putting up Apples in what is known as the "solid pack," i.e., Apples in tins ready for pies and culinary purposes.

This business is now on a substantial commercial basis, factories being established as follows:—Burton & Wells (Cygnets), H. Jones & Co. (Hobart), W. A. G. Smith (Franklin), V. J. Skinner (Huonville), V. D. Sheppard (Castle Forbes Bay, and Ranelagh), R. Salter (Ranelagh), Channel Evaporators (Kettering), Port Huon Fruitgrowers (Hobart and Port Huon), New Co-operative Factory (Cygnets).

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Export & Commercial News

N.Z. Apple and Pear Exports

Government Guarantee of 11/- Per Case for 1939 Shipments

CONTINUATION OF EXPORT GUARANTEE DOUBTFUL.

THE FOLLOWING are included in the conditions for the Government Guarantee on shipments of Apples and Pears made from New Zealand during the 1939 season:

The guarantee shall be limited to approved varieties and classes of Apples and Pears packed in compliance with the requirements of "Extra Fancy," "Fancy" and "Good" grades, and shipped or loaded for direct shipment from New Zealand on or before May 25, 1939, to the United Kingdom and other overseas markets; Dougherty, Rokewood and Tasma shall be admitted under the guarantee, if shipped before June 10, 1939; shipments of approved varieties and classes of Apples and Pears to Eastern Markets to be made on or before August 31, 1939.

"The Government guarantees to the grower a c.i.f. return of 11/- (N.Z. currency) per case, in respect to those varieties set out in table herewith and other varieties that may be approved by the Minister of Agriculture, provided they comply with all export regulations."

Payment of claims under the guarantee shall be calculated on the basis of the average c.i.f. price (New Zealand currency) per case received by the claimant in respect of the whole of the fruit exported on his account during the season to all markets, and only the deficiency between the average c.i.f. price realised for such fruit and 11s. (New Zealand currency) c.i.f. per case shall be payable under the guarantee.

Varieties Approved for Export.

- Apples.**
1. Alfriston.
 2. Ballarat.
 3. Brighton.
 4. Cleopatra.
 5. Cox's Orange Pippin.
 6. Delicious.
 7. Dougherty.
 8. Dunn's.
 9. Frimley Beauty.
 10. Glengyle Red.
 11. Golden Delicious.
 12. Granny Smith.
 13. Gravenstein.
 14. Jonathan.
 15. Kidd's Orange Red.
 16. London Pippin.
 17. Lord Wolseley.
 18. Newtown Pippin.
 19. Parlin's Beauty.
 20. Pioneer.
 21. Rokewood.
 22. Rome Beauty.
 23. Scarlet Nompriel.
 24. Stark.
 25. Statesman.
 26. Sturmer Pippin.
 27. Tasma.
 28. Willie Sharp.
 29. Worcester.
 30. Yates.

Pears.

1. Beurré Bosc.
2. Beurré Capiaumont.
3. Beurré Clairgeau.
4. Beurré d'Amanlis.
5. Beurré d'Anjou.
6. Beurré Diel.
7. Beurré Easter.
8. Conference.
9. Doyenné du Comice.
10. Duchesse d'Angoulême.
11. Giblin's Nelis.
12. Glou Morceau.
13. Joséphine de Malines.
14. Keiffer.
15. L'Inconnue.
16. Louise Bonne de Jersey.
17. Madam Cole.
18. Marie Louise.
19. Packham's Triumph.
20. P. Barry.
21. Twyford Monarch.
22. Vicar of Winkfield.
23. Winter Cole.
24. Winter Nelis.

Continuance of Guarantee Unlikely.

The subject of the continuance of the export guarantee is dealt with in another article in this issue. Local marketing is also involved. The question before the industry is that of the Government taking over the marketing of both export and local fruit. Failing this action, neither the export guarantee nor the subsidy of 5/2 per case for local market is likely to be renewed.

N. Z. Fruit Industry

Local Subsidy Stopped

QUESTION OF FUTURE EXPORT GUARANTEE ALSO INVOLVED.

N.Z. FRUITGROWERS' FEDERATION REQUESTS STATE CONTROL.

N. Z. FRUITGROWERS have been informed by the Government that its subsidy for locally-marketed Apples has been withdrawn and that no export guaranteed price will be paid next season, states the "Auckland Herald." At present the subsidy is computed on the difference between the assessed Dominion average price a case and 5/2. It is expected by growers that last year's pay-out will amount to about £100,000, and possibly more.

Growers state that they believed the Government's refusal to continue with the subsidy was due in a large measure to dissatisfaction with some of the growers (in supplying inferior fruit).

Effects of Decision.

As a result of the Government's decision, growers expect to be paid a subsidy only for fruit marketed locally to the end of last December, 1938. The export guarantee will operate to the close of the present season, which is at the end of May, but not after that.

The serious nature of the move was stated by growers to lie in the fact that they relied upon the Government's assistance to arrange necessary capital for the conduct of their orchards. It served as a security for bank overdrafts and permitted the advance importation of such materials as cases.

In the case of the export guarantee it was stated that the arrangement was between the Government and the New Zealand Fruitgrowers' Federation, which gave growers an advance of 5/- a case and then met subsequent shipping and marketing charges itself. If the returns fell below 11/- a case the Government met the difference, although it was considered a very poor season if the returns did not exceed this figure.

Future of Industry.

Growers were inclined to discount the importance of the withdrawal of the export guarantee on the ground that there was at present a determined national move on the part of a large number of fruitgrowers to have the whole of the pip fruit industry taken over by the Government. Mr. Nash had expressed the Government's willingness to do this at the growers' invitation, and meetings were held throughout the country to test the growers' attitude.

In some quarters it was regarded as almost certain that Government control would be effected at the growers' wish before the end of this year. It was pointed out that if this happened neither the cessation of the local subsidy nor the withdrawal of the export guarantee would matter, since the Government itself would then have complete control of marketing.

Later—

N.Z. Fruitgrowers' Federation Requests State Control.

Growers to Receive a Guaranteed Price.

The Government has agreed to assist the fruit industry by taking over all fruit produced at a guaranteed price on condition that the New Zealand Fruitgrowers' Federation and the Fruit Export Control Board as representative of the whole industry ask

the Government to bring the proposal into operation. This statement was made to-day by Mr. J. Dicker, chairman of the Nelson fruit advisory committee and vice-president of the New Zealand Fruitgrowers' Federation.

Mr. Dicker said the Government claimed the guaranteed price would take the place of and would be equivalent to the present export guarantee and the subsidy paid on locally marketed fruit. Following the offer made by the Government the controlling organisations of the industry took steps to ascertain the opinion of growers and the Board of the Fruitgrowers' Federation passed a resolution accepting the Government offer of a guaranteed price.

"The Federation's decision was based on decisions of growers' meetings. The Fruit Export Control Board has not yet come to a decision on the matter.

"Although the Government refused to renew the subsidy on locally marketed fruit this year it agreed to renew the guarantee of 11/- per case on export fruit this season. Statements published to the effect that the pay-out of the subsidy on locally-marketed fruit will be £1,000,000 are utterly absurd. The position in regard to the local subsidy is that an advance payment of 9d. a case has been made on fruit received up to the end of last June, the pay-out being about £20,000. The subsidy was paid according to the difference between the Dominion average price per case and 5/2.

"The amount yet to be paid to the growers under the subsidy for sales of last year's fruit is estimated at about £80,000," said Mr. Dicker, "but that figure will depend on the analysis of prices when all the account sales are available. However, the Minister of Finance has advised that the balance of the subsidy will probably be paid to growers at the end of this month. It appears probable that the total pay-out under the subsidy will be about £100,000."

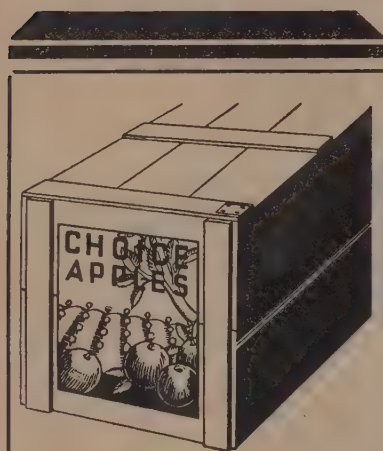
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Apple and Pear Exports, 1939

THE FIGURES relating to exports of Apples and Pears from Australia for the three months ended March 31, 1939, together with comparative figures for the previous year have been made available by the Department of Commerce.

States.	Apple Exports—January to March.				
	United Kingdom.	Conti- nent.	Else- where.	Total, 1939.	Total, 1938.
	Cases.	Cases.	Cases.	Cases.	Cases.
N.S.W.	4,269	4	3,650	7,923	60,092
Victoria	94,315	1,004	2,644	97,963	299,534
Queensland	17,026	—	9,188	26,214	33,194
South Australia	95,222	20,474	1,384	117,080	391,578
West Australia	216,083	160,579	16,789	393,451	224,978
Tasmania	719,299	123,717	4,421	847,437	1,016,668
Total, 1939	1,146,214	305,778	38,076	1,490,068	—
Total, 1938	1,640,145	331,344	54,555	—	2,026,044

In comparison with 1938, the total exports for the period January to March, 1939, show a considerable decline of 535,976 cases, principally accounted for by a fall of 493,931 cases in United Kingdom shipments. Reduced quantities were shipped from each of the exporting States except Western Australia, where an appreciable increase has been recorded.

States.	Pear Exports—January to March.				
	United Kingdom.	Conti- nent.	Else- where.	Total, 1939.	Total, 1938.
	Cases.	Cases.	Cases.	Cases.	Cases.
N.S.W.	5,650	—	4,001	9,651	22,248
Victoria	109,343	—	2,576	111,919	169,535
Queensland	—	—	515	515	143
South Australia	12,659	—	754	13,413	30,197
West Australia	24,450	9,467	946	34,863	17,278
Tasmania	77,373	—	50	77,423	60,985
Total, 1939	229,475	9,467	8,842	247,784	—
Total, 1938	272,504	15,651	12,231	—	300,386

Pear exports show a decline of 52,602 cases in comparison with 1938, this decline being evident in shipments to all markets, but particularly in those to the United Kingdom, where a decrease of 43,029 cases is shown.

It will be observed that the States of New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia show appreciable reductions in the quantities shipped during the first three months of the present season. On the other hand, exports by the States of Western Australia, Tasmania and Queensland show increases.

S. AFRICAN FRUIT CROPS, 1937-38

Over 4,500,000 Packages Exported
PROBLEMS IN THE EXPORT OF STONE FRUITS.

A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW of the S. African fruit crops in the season 1937-38 is contained in the report of Mr. G. M. Dykes, Overseas Representative of the Deciduous Fruit Exchange, states the "Farmer's Weekly" (S. Africa).

Exports for the season amounted to 4,547,314 packages, about 900,000 more than in the previous season. This is equal to about 90,000 shipping tons, only 3,000 tons short of the record of 1935-36. Grape shipments exceeded 2,000,000 boxes for the first time, and export of Plums and Apricots also exceeded previous shipments. Pears and Nectarines were the only fruits below average.

Because of earlier ripening of fruit, heavy shipments were made two weeks earlier than usual. Large quantities of early Peaches and Plums arrived in mid-December, but the demand was slow and prices disappointing.

The condition of the fruit on arrival was fairly satisfactory. A good deal of the improvement was probably due to better weather conditions and other factors, hence the need for further investigations. Over-ripeness in Peaches and Nectarines caused an increase in wastage. Pears, Apricots, Pineapples and Apples were mostly good. Plums were unsatisfactory, and the position needs to be rectified. Prices were comparatively firm.

The gross value of fruits sold on the U.K. market was estimated at £1,255,000, as compared with £1,094,000 the previous year.

Experimental Shipments to Canada.

A loss of £122/1/8 was the result of three experimental shipments sent to Canada, although gross prices for all fruits, except Plums and Nectarines, were higher than in U.K.

A satisfactory feature was the more regular spreading out of supplies. 92 per cent. of Grape imports to U.K. were supplied by South Africa.

South African Pears still lack the bright, clean appearance and uniformity of the Argentine and better American marks.

The use of wood wool pads in place of corrugated cardboard made a striking difference in preventing box marking in W.B.C. and one or two other varieties.

The Pineapple season was very satisfactory, but bladderiness in Plums is a problem which needs attention.

Publicity Efforts.

In regard to publicity, the report states that many letters of appreciation were received on the publication of a new edition of the Exchange's booklet, "Summer Fruits for Winter Health." The whole issue of 400,000 copies was exhausted in three weeks, the retailers receiving them paying the cost of printing their names and addresses on the covers. Nearly 20,000 copies of the new edition of the trade booklet were also issued, while 50,000 sets of colored streamers distributed were made full use of by many retailers in all parts of the country.

Sample bags of mixed fruits at 1/- each were sold in large quantities at various exhibitions.



Loading fruit for export from Western Australia.

PROMOTING PEAR SALES.

Big Campaign in Operation in U.S.A.

Ripening Rooms Established.

EFFORTS ARE BEING MADE in U.S.A. to educate the public, and the retailers as to the correct time to buy and the use of Pears.

In this direction pamphlets "How to Handle Autumn and Winter Pears" have been issued, and this season a manual for retailers has been issued, giving information as to the proper ripening of Pears, proper display or selling tips. The book is very cleverly illustrated with cartoons. Besides this, newspaper, car card and radio advertising will be carried out. Last season the Pear Bureau concentrated on teaching the retailers how to handle the Pears, and special ripening rooms were established in various markets. In cities where there are no ripening rooms especially maintained for Pears, the trade is urged to ripen the Pears in Banana or Tomato ripening rooms where similar heating and humidifying conditions are maintained.

Activity in Australia.

During Melbourne's recent "Garden Week," the Apple and Pear Council handed out pamphlets containing names of varieties of Pears and when they were available. The following useful hint was included.

Many people miss the real charm of dessert Pears by eating them before the fruit has become properly ripe. A semi-ripe Pear is edible and frequently quite tasty, but it lacks the delightful luscious characteristics of fully-ripened fruit.

When you buy Pears, do not eat them right away unless fully ripe.

Put them on a shelf for about a week to ripen. Then and then only will you know the real richness and flavor of these delicious fruits.

Early in the season it is easy to see when a Pear such as the Williams Bon Chretien variety, with its yellow skin, is fully ripe, but later on, especially with varieties which are mostly green or brown in appearance, the state of ripeness for eating as dessert fruit is not at once discernible.

The state of eating ripeness, however, can be ascertained by gentle pressure with the fingers. If there is that feeling of soft yielding flesh the Pear is usually ripe.

PACKING GRAPES FOR EXPORT.

Some interesting observations were made last year by the N.S.W. Viticultural Expert of the Department of Ohanez Grapes for export.

One of the practices to be deplored is the slapping of the cases to distribute the cork; it is far better to gently rock the case. Nor can the practice of packing cases on the sides instead of on the flat be recommended. This method is always likely to produce slackness in the case.

Most growers pack in the vineyards, and this is preferable to carrying the fruit in lugs to a central packing house. Instances were noted of insufficient cork being used, and it was found that a case containing 32 lb. of Grapes and 5 lb. of cork was quite fit for export.

A further comparison showed that cases containing 30 lb. fruit and 4½ lb. cork opened up even better than those containing 32 lb. fruit and 3½ lb. cork, although in both instances the cases were fit for export.

ESTABLISHED 1900

Ridley & Houlding

LIMITED

10 Russell Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2

Fruit Importers and Merchants

Personal Attention given to All Consignments

All particulars and advice re Advances and Shipping will be supplied by

The International Fruit and Mercantile Co.

6, Wholesale Fruit Markets, Franklin Street, Melbourne

Sole Agents for Victoria

A. J. Walshe & Co. (1937) Pty. Ltd., 45 Davey St., Hobart, Tasmania.

Mr. W. Pitts (Overseas and Interstate Export Co.), 20 Market St., Sydney, New South Wales. (Sole Agent for:—New South Wales Queensland, South Australia.)

Murdoch Bros. Pty. Ltd., Market Place, Hobart, Tasmania.

Cables: "Botanizing, London."

TRADE PUBLICITY IN UNITED KINGDOM.

Activity Maintained.

The Director of Australian Trade Publicity in Great Britain reports to the Trade Publicity Committee that as part of the propaganda work carried out during the month of Decem-

ber, 1938, Australian films were displayed at 48 cinemas spread over 42 towns in Great Britain. The films shown related to the Australian dried fruit, canned fruit, fresh fruit, butter, egg, timber, wheat, wool and other industries, and also dealt with the scenic beauties of the Commonwealth. Australian film programmes were also shown to 30 guilds, institutes, etc., the

audiences at these latter shows totalling 6,815.

The outdoor representatives of the Department made 1,753 calls on the wholesale and retail traders to promote business, secure displays of Australian goods and arrange demonstrations.

During the month, 1,696 posters and streamers were exhibited in out-

door advertising, and 7,239 free sets of shop advertising material for butter, eggs, dried and canned fruits were distributed on request to the trade.

PLUM EXPORT.

858 half cases from Victoria in "Melbourne Star."

Blue Diamond Plums reported unsatisfactory for export.

A REPORT is to hand from the Agent-General for Victoria in London of the out-turn of 858 half bushel boxes of plums shipped from Melbourne on January 21, 1939, per s.s. "Melbourne Star."

The varieties, which were mainly Jefferson and Golden Drop, with smaller lots of Satsuma, Diamond, Magnum Bonum, Wickson, Grand Duke and President, had an opening temperature at Melbourne on January 21, of 34 deg; during the voyage, the temperature ranged from 31½-33 deg., mostly 32 degrees.

On arrival, with the exception of the Diamonds and one line of Golden Drop, the consignment, on the whole, opened up in a fairly good marketable condition. The Diamond variety opened up in a very soft, dry and mealy condition, showing severe internal browning, with quite a lot of fruit collapsed in some cases examined. As in previous seasons, this variety proved that it is not a suitable one for export to the U.K. market, at the present temperatures of 32 deg. F., which enables most of the other varieties to arrive in a reasonably sound condition.

The packing of the consignment appears to be quite satisfactory. It is suggested that whilst the larger fruit might be wrapped, the smaller "1½" size should be left naked, as the trade prefers the pack this way. The additional expense incurred in wrapping Plums, which are for culinary use does not add to their market value, and does not appear to assist the plums to arrive in England in any sounder condition than the unwrapped fruit.

The following is a range of the prices realised:—

Grand Duke and President, 12/-, some up to 16/-; Jefferson, 8/- to 9/-, some up to 16/-; Magnum Bonum, 8/- to 8/6; Golden Drop, 8/- to 9/-, some up to 11/-; Diamond, 3/-, very soft and wasty; Satsuma, 10/-; Wickson, 8/- to 10/-, Good price for faulty Plums; Blue Diamond, 8/- (a very good return for Plums in a very soft condition and showing severe internal browning.)

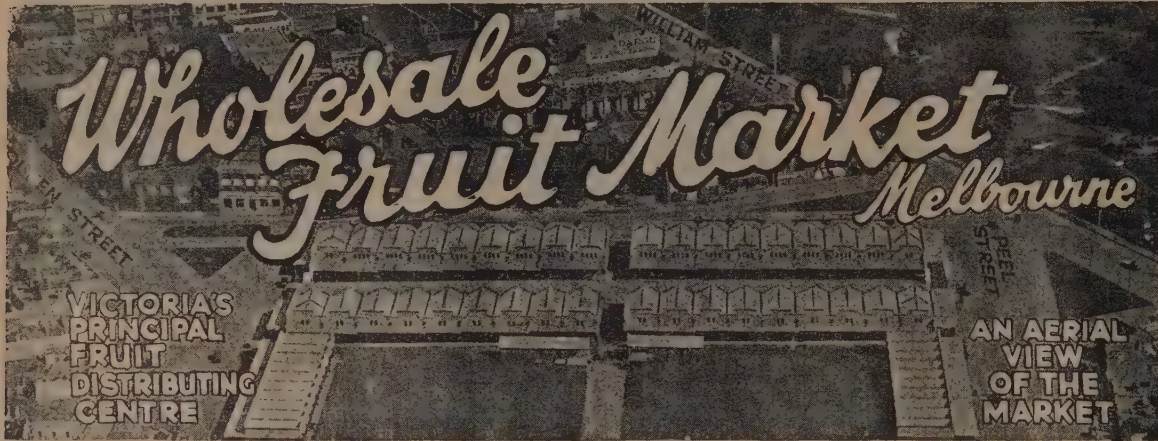
ORIENT LINE PRIZE FOR APPLES.

Mr. N. W. Ross Leading in N.S.W.

Mr. N. W. Ross, of Mullion Creek, won the Australian section of the Orient Line prize at the Sydney Show for special export Apples, leading W. Woolard and Sons, of Newbridge, by one point, and Mr. W. S. Cripps, of Little Hartley, by 5½ points. Two cases of Apples from each exhibitor were forwarded to London, where the second half of the contest will be decided.

The Apples were judged on the suitability of the variety for export, the quality, freedom from imperfections and absence of disease, grading, form, and packing.

Messrs. Morris and Sons secured first and second places for exhibits of Granny Smith and Yates Apples in the class for single bushel case for export. Mr. W. J. Nancarrow, of Orange, was third.



Cable Address: DAVIS, MELBOURNE. Code: "ABC," 4th and 5th Editions. Box, G.P.O. 148B.

J. DAVIS PTY. LTD., Fruit Merchants

8 WHOLESALE FRUIT MARKET

Consignments solicited. One Trial Invited. Best Prices obtained. Prompt Advice and Payment. Telephone, F 3232. Bankers: The National Bank of Australasia, 271 Collins Street, Melbourne.

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Australia looks to you to produce and sell good fruit, but to PRODUCE GOOD FRUIT and have it badly sold is a reflection on your business ability. To sell well is as important as to produce well. The greatest combination that can exist beneficially is that between a painstaking fruitgrower and a painstaking salesman.

If you have good fruit to market, you will find in the firm of GEORGE LISTER PTY. LTD. the service you require. Established over 50 Years.

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COUNTRY AND INTERSTATE ORDER TRADE SUPPLIED.

SHIPPING No. 41. PROMPT SETTLEMENTS. CONSIGNMENTS SOLICITED. PHONE: F 4370. Bankers: Bank of Australasia, Melbourne.

Regular Supplies of
Quality Fruit well Packed
and Graded will realize
the Best Prices.

Tim Young & Co.
Pty. Ltd.

WHOLESALE FRUIT MERCHANTS

18 Wholesale Fruit Market

Growers can be assured of receiving
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returns.

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Growers in all States are invited to
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Value and Prompt Returns.

Fidelity Bond Guarantee for £1,000

Pea and Bean Stands,

11 and 12 Victoria Market.

Reference—E.S. & A. Bank,

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Phone: F 5035.

TASMANIAN PROSPECTS BRIGHT.

In his valedictory address at a meeting of the Huon Council in Huonville recently, Mr. G. C. Frankcomb (Warden of Huon) stated that it was seldom the fruit industry had two good seasons in succession, but prospects for the present season seemed very bright indeed. This was evidenced in the general improvements in the municipality, both public and private.

TASMANIAN APPLES IN LONDON.

Cox's to 15/6 Case.

Messrs. H. Jones & Co. Pty. Ltd., Hobart, report having received advice from their representative in London (Mr. E. Ross) that the first Apples from Southern Tasmania shipped by R.M.S. "Orcades," which reached London on April 6, sold as follows:—C.O.P., 10/- to 15/6 per case; Ribstones, 8/6 to 10/3; Worcester, 9/6 to 10/6; Tasman's Pride, 9/6 to 9/9; Duke of Clarence, 9/- to 10/-; Cleo., 9/6 to 11/6; Alfr., 10/- to 12/3; Jon., 9/3 to 10/3; Londons, 10/- to 10/6.

LOADING FRUIT AT PORT HUON.

AT A RECENT CONFERENCE between shipping delegates and Huon orchardists, at Geeveston, it was stated that the fortnightly shipping service to Sydney and Brisbane was satisfactory, although it was pointed out that the late arrivals of vessels at the Sydney market was disadvantageous to growers. In reply it was stated that delays had only occurred two or three times, and these were due to rough weather.

Appreciation was expressed for the manner in which the Port Huon men stowed, many stating that they considered the Port Huon men stowed at the same rate, or probably a little faster than those at Hobart. It was also stated that if any increase in speed was made the growers would suffer through less care in handling the fruit.

"STARVE YOUR RAILWAYS AND THEN—WHAT."

"Starve Your Railways and Then—What" is the title of a folder issued by the Commissioners of the Victorian Railways, to bring before the public the vital need for greater support of the railways. This booklet shows that the farmer, trader, consumer, and taxpayer cannot afford to allow the railways to be starved into exhaustion and inefficiency, because they are so vital to all in peace and in war. A railway deficit of £800,000 has to be faced this year, and without the support of the people cannot be met, but will be increased.

A commencement has been made to improve tracks and reconditioning and strengthening lines is now in hand.

Unique Railway Map.

The Victorian Railways Special Services Division have prepared a map of the entire N.S.W. railway system, and have enclosed it in a handsome oxidised bronze frame—10 ft. long and 9 ft. high. This is for public display at the Wynyard Railway Station, Sydney. The chief feature is the coloring and lighting of the railway lines, station names and geographical features. The railway lines are in bright scarlet, with the station names in pearl white, and mountains, rivers and towns are in jade green, while the coastline is in deep opalescent blue.

BATLOW (N.S.W.) PACKING HOUSE CO-OP.

Successful Year Reported.

At the annual general meeting of the Batlow Packing House Co-operative Ltd., held on April 27, the directors' report, balance sheet, and various working accounts were presented. Mr. A. E. Herring (Chairman) in moving the adoption of the report and balance sheet, said that the Society had had a very successful year.

The turnover ex Batlow comprised approximately 139,000 cases Apples and Pears, and 19,000 bags Potatoes. The nett amount distributed to members for fruit and Potatoes sold locally was approximately £55,000, whilst a nett amount of approximately £14,000 was distributed to growers on account of export sales. All departments showed surplus earnings except the Cider Department, which is still in the developmental stage, and showed a loss of £374. Total surplus earnings amounted to approximately £2,950, and of this amount, after placing £140 to statutory reserve, £2,450 was rebated to shareholders as follows:—

3½d. per packed case to Packing House shareholders.

1½d. per case space rebate on cool store charges.

6 per cent. rebate on goods purchased.

1d. per case on cases.

The bank overdraft was reduced by £6,417, as compared with the amount outstanding at December 31, 1938. Sundry creditors were £1,748 lower, and members debit balances £2,624 lower.

The following directors were re-elected: Messrs. A. E. Herring (Chairman), O. J. Butz (Vice-Chairman),

E. M. Herring, C. Smith, N. L. Quarmbay, J. Sedgwick, C. Buchele, C. C. Barberie, J. A. Bartell.

Resolutions were carried expressing thanks to the directors, management and staff.

A resolution was carried congratulating E. E. Herrod, Secretary of the Fruitgrowers' Federation, on the manner in which he represented fruitgrowers' interests before the Royal Commission on the fruit industry.

The general manager of the Batlow Packing House Co-op. Ltd. is Mr. H. V. Smith, Engineer and Manager of Cool Stores Mr. H. Patchell, Secretary Mr. T. A. Hudson.

LONDON'S SHIPPING.

Over 1,000 Vessels, Over 1,000,000 Tons.

During the week ended January 6, 1,071 vessels representing 1,180,767 net register tons, used the Port of London. Of these, 534 vessels (979,687 net register tons) were to and from Empire and foreign ports and 537 vessels (201,080 net register tons) were engaged in coastwise traffic.

The arrivals included ten meat cargoes, viz.: seven from Australia, one from New Zealand and two from South America, comprising 393,000 carcasses of lamb and mutton, 121,000 quarters of beef, quantities of pork, rabbits and sundries.

VICTORIAN FRUIT EXPORTS.

The total number of packages of fruit exported from Victoria to the United Kingdom up to April 22 totalled 367,655 cases. These included 146,090 cases of Apples and 212,836 cases of Pears.

SOUTH AFRICAN FRUIT PUBLICITY.

S. Africa has issued a new edition of the booklet, "Summer Fruits for Winter Health," as publicity, through English retailers, and many letters of appreciation were received. The retailers receiving them paid the cost of printing their names and addresses on the cover. The whole issue of 400,000 copies was exhausted in three weeks. Also 20,000 copies of the trade booklet and 50,000 sets of colored streamers have been issued.

S. Africa exported over 2,000,000 packages of Grapes in the 1937-38 season. Two varieties—Waltham Cross and Alphonse Lavalla, were chiefly responsible for the large increase in Grape shipments, the former totalling 184,000 cases and the latter 63,000 boxes more than the previous year.

SYDNEY MARKETS.

Reports to hand from the Tasmanian Government Marketing Officer (Mr. H. McKay), for the week ending April 22, state that the market for Apples, particularly Jonathans, has been firm. Hard conditioned Winter Coles met with a good demand, but small and over-mature fruit was difficult to clear.

Impatient Customer: "Who attends to the nuts?"

Girl: "I'll take care of you in just a minute, sir."



Licensed under Farm Produce Agents Act.

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Fruit Commission Agent

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HIGHEST MARKET PRICES — PROMPT RETURNS — RELIABLE ADVICE.

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CITY FRUIT MARKETS, SYDNEY.

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HEAD OFFICE:

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References: Bank of New South Wales.

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AUSTRALIAN APPLES FOR SWEDEN.

ACCORDING to Australian export statistics Sweden is a very large consumer of Australian fresh Apples, in that respect ranking next after the United Kingdom and Germany, but according to Swedish statistics the consumption of Australian Apples is ever so much higher than that shown in Australian statistics, as may be seen from the following comparative tables of values:—

Australian Exports of Apples According to Country of Shipment.		Years.	
		1936-37.	1937-38.
Total	£1,000	£1,000	£1,000
Great Britain .. .	1,345	1,400	
Germany	1,904	1,124	
Sweden	68	76	
Sweden's Imports of Apples According to Country of Origin.	36	42	
Years.		1936.	1937.
		Kr. 1,000.	Kr. 1,000.
Total	6,457	6,424	
United States .. .	3,178	2,981	
Australia	2,248	2,306	

The above figures seem to indicate that the Australian exports or direct shipments to Sweden only comprise between one-third and one-fourth of Sweden's total imports of Australian Apples. Sweden therefore must import by far the largest quantity of Australian Apples from Great Britain and Germany.

Why are these Apples not sent direct to Sweden? It should be cheaper and less injurious to the Apples, which may easily be damaged in trans-shipment. The same question may be asked regarding Pears, Oranges, Grapes and other Australian fruits. Indeed, it may be asked regarding all Australian exports to Sweden, and in an article in the Swedish-Australian Journal some aspects of this problem are discussed.

Market Notes and Prices

SYDNEY MARKETS.

The following market report for April 24, 1939 (with review of the previous week) is to hand from Mr. L. T. Pearce, Market Representative of the Fruitgrowers' Federation of N.S.W.:—

Apples: Cleo. (N.S.W.), 5/- to 8/6 per bush. (Tas. 4/- to 8/-); Del. (N.S.W.), 7/- to 12/-, few 14/- (Tas. 7/- to 10/-); Fameuse (N.S.W.), 5/- to 7/6 (Tas. 4/- to 7/-); French Crab (Tas.), 5/- to 8/-; Granny (N.S.W.), 6/- to 11/-, few 12/-; Jon (N.S.W.), 5/- to 11/-, few 12/- (Tas. 5/- to 10/-); King David (N.S.W.), 5/- to 7/6; London (N.S.W.), 4/- to 7/-, few 8/- (Tas. 4/- to 7/-); Rome (N.S.W.), 5/- to 10/-; Tasman's Pride (Tas.), 5/- to 7/-; Others, 4/- to 7/-. Small and "D" Grade lower.

Pears: Bosc (N.S.W.), 3/- to 8/- per bush. (Tas. to 7/-); Howell (N.S.W. and Vict.), 4/- to 8/-; Packham's Triumph (N.S.W.), 8/- to 12/-, few 13/- (Tas. 5/- to 10/-); Winter Cole (N.S.W.), 5/- to 10/-, few 12/- (Tas. 5/- to 9/-, few 10/-); Others 3/- to 7/-. Small and "D" Grade lower.

Comments on the Apple and Pear Position: Only off sizes and types of Apples remained in the market this morning. Jonathan Apples have had good enquiry and values have improved. Due to the Anzac Day holiday, Tasmanian arrivals comprising approximately 50,000 cases of Apples and Pears will not be delivered completely until Wednesday. Small sizes in Pears are still difficult to clear. Tasmanian Winter Cole were at lower levels due to advanced maturity.

Bananas (N.S.W. and Q'land.): Prices according to the Banana Mar-

keting Board of N.S.W. Regulation graded, first quality fruit. Six, seven, eight and nine inch, 15/- to 25/- per tropical case. 11,596 tropical cases were available in Sydney last week, 7,516 coming from N.S.W. and 4,080 from Queensland.

Custard Apples: Q'land., 2/6 to 5/- per half bush. Deliveries increased to 1,767 during last week.

Citrus Fruit.

Grapefruit: U.S.A., Californian, 37/6 per Cal. case; Palestine, 20/- to 28/- for citrus box; N.S.W., 5/- to 7/-, few 8/- per bushel.

Lemons: N.S.W., Standard and Special green, 4/- to 6/-; colored 7/- to 10/-, few 12/- per bushel; Plain Grade, 3/- to 7/-. Q'land., 10/- to 16/-.

Mandarins: N.S.W., Imperial, 4/- to 8/- per half bush.

Oranges: Valencias, N.S.W., 7/- to 10/-, few higher per bushel; 2nd crop Vals. 4/- to 8/-, few higher. Navels, N.S.W., 6/- to 9/-, few 10/- per bush.; U.S.A., 32/6 per Cal. case; Q'land., 10/- to 15/-, few higher, per bush.; Joppa, 10/- to 11/-.

Comments on the Citrus Position.

Grapefruit: N.S.W. new season fruit appeared, but was rather too immature to be popular. Queensland supplies will be available again next Thursday. **Lemons:** Green fruit is definitely not wanted and partly colored fruit is becoming more plentiful. The Queensland consignments are very popular. **Mandarins:** The Imperial type is becoming more noticeable each day. **Oranges:** A few main crop Valencias are still observed. N.S.W. new season Navels are appearing from the earliest districts, most being artificially colored.

Grapes: N.S.W., Inland.—Black Muscat, 6/- to 8/-, inferior lower; Ohanez, 2/6 to 4/-, few 5/-, Cornichon, 2/6 to 4/-, few higher per half bushel. All Grapes are now showing the effects of the wet season, and agents are compelled to clear stocks as quickly as possible.

Melons: N.S.W., Inland, Honeydews, Californian Cremes, 3/- to 7/- per trop. case. Unpayable values and weather conditions have reduced supplies, and values have improved a little.

Plums: N.S.W., 2/- to 4/-, few 5/- per half bushel case. A few of these are still being released from cool store, although fruit showing advanced maturity is almost unsaleable.

Passionfruit: N.S.W., Vic., 10/- to 18/-, few to 24/- per half bush.; Q'land., 13/- to 18/-. N.S.W. supplies are extremely limited, small consignments coming from the North Coast. Victoria and Queensland are also forwarding small consignments.

Papaws: Q'land., 10/- to 12/- per trop. case. 179 trop. cases came from Queensland last week.

Persimmons: N.S.W., 6d. to 3/-, few 4/- per half bushel. Unpayable values are resulting for much of this fruit.

Pineapples: Q'land. and N.S.W., 7/- to 11/- per tropical case. The Queensland quota last week comprised 4,811 tropical cases, the holiday this week necessitating quick clearance.

Quinces: N.S.W., 3/- to 5/-, few 7/- per bushel. Large sized fruit continues scarce.

Tomatoes: N.S.W., 3/- to 5/-, special colored to 9/- per half case; Q'land., 2/- to 6/- per half case; Vict., 10/- to 12/- per bushel; Repacked, 8/- to 10/- per half bushel. Inferior in all types lower. Small consignments are coming forward from a number of districts and firm special quality colored fruit is in request. The Queensland consignments last week totalled 920 half bushel cases, Victoria also forwarding a few.

The PRINCIPAL Fruit Merchants and Exporters of SOUTH AUSTRALIA

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BANANA IMPORTERS AND RIPENERS

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Specialty Overseas Export All Countries.

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Gumeracha

FRUIT EXPORTERS AND MERCHANTS

Specialising in Apple and Pear Export.

Proprietors HOME SERVICE STORES, Branch 41.

Phone: Gumeracha 2.

Enquiries Are Invited by Advertisers on
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Chamber of Fruit and
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List of Members:—

FRUIT SECTION.

Associated Growers' Reedy Bros.
Selling Agency. W. H. Southcott.
P. Brooks. F. G. Stevens & Son.
Boot & Carter. E. T. Stanton.
W. E. Bromley. F. J. Salmon & Co.
Fred Chilton. Sam Yick & Co.
P. W. Chew & Co. Trathen & Hall.
Seymour Denning. D. C. Turnbull.
C. Gibbs & Son. Joshua Terrey.
H. J. Greentree. E. Valentine & Sons.
J. Hawke. L. L. Vince.
Hay Bros. A. H. Walker & Son.
Hop Lee & Co. Ltd. Wilson Bros.
Hie Lee & Co. Ward & Felton.
John Jenkins. Watkins & Evans.
F. C. Kennett. A. Weymark & Son
J. W. Kirkwood. Ltd.
McKellar & Devlin. Wing On & Co. Ltd.
Mitchell & Lawless. Wing Sang & Co.
W. Musgrove & Son. Wing Tiy & Co.
Neil Jolly & Co. H. P. Woodward.
F. H. G. Rogers. Yocksni Bros.

VEGETABLE SECTION.

B.P.B. & Co. A. Leedow.
Boot & Carter. Messent & Gauld.
E. Cooke. Mitchell & Galvin.
C. Cooper. G. H. Molesworth.
E. M. Clarke. E. W. Parker & Son
Clarke & Son. W. J. Paull.
E. G. Clarke. S. J. Rhodes.
J. Clayton & Son. Reedy Bros.
W. J. Curtis. W. H. Southcott.
Denning Bros. F. G. Stevens & Son.
Dunston & Norris. Thompson & Smith.
C. C. Greentree & A. R. Terrill.
Son. A. R. Valentine.
J. Hawke. Yocksni Bros.

P. S. MACDERMOTT,

General Secretary,

215a Thomas St., Haymarket, Sydney.

VICTORIA.

Melbourne (2/5/39).—The Wholesale Fruit Merchants' Association advises prices as follow:—Per Case: Apples, eating, 6/-, 9/-, choice higher; cooking, 4/-, 7/-. Bananas, double case, 14/-, 22/-, few higher. Cantaloupes, 2/-, 5/-, poor demand. Cucumbers, 3/-, 5/-. Custard Apples, 5/-, 7/- half case. Grapes, 7/-, 14/-, choice higher. Grapefruit, 7/-, 14/-, selected higher. Lemons, 8/-, 12/-, few higher. Mandarins, Queensland, 10/-, 12/-; Emperors, 15/-, 16/-, Vals., 6/-, 17/-, selected higher; Navels, 9/-, 12/-, selected higher. Passionfruit, half case, 6/-, 14/-, choice higher. Papaws, 12/-, 16/-. Pears, 4/-, 10/-, choice higher. Pineapples, 10/-, 16/-. Tomatoes, 5/-, 12/-, special higher.

Queensland Committee of Direction of Fruit Marketing prices: Bananas, green (double case), 8's and 9's, 18/-, 22/-; 7's, 16/-, 19/-; 6's, 14/-, 17/-, few higher. Pineapples, 10/-, 16/-. Papaws, 12/-, 16/-. Custard Apples, 5/-, 7/-. Grapefruit, 8/-, 12/-. Oranges, Navels, 10/-, 12/-; Joppas, 8/-, 10/-. Mandarins, Frewtells, 8/-, 12/-; Emperor, 12/-, 16/-. Lemons, 10/-, 12/-. Cucumbers, 3/-, 5/-. Avacados, 11/-, 13/- half case. Ginger, 4d., 6d.

The Federal Citrus Council of Australia reports citrus market dull. Grapefruit and Lemon prices weaker. Sales were:—Navels: Thompsons, 11/-, odd 12/-; good Washingtons, 1/-, 2/- higher. Lemons, good standards, 11/-, odd 12/-; specials, 1/-, 2/- higher. Grapefruit, 11/-, few 12/-; specially selected 13/-, odd 14/-.

QUEENSLAND.

Brisbane (20/4/39).—Messrs. Clark & Jesser advise prices as follows:—Apples: Jons., 2½ to 2½, 10/- to 11/-, smaller sizes 8/- to 9/-; other colored Apples, 9/- to 10/-; G.S., 10/- to 11/-. Pears: W.C., 10/- to 12/-; other varieties, 9/- to 10/-; small sizes, 6/- to 7/-. Oranges: Common, 5/- to 7/-; Navels, 9/- to 11/-; Lemons, 12/- to 15/-. Grapes: Purple Cornichon, 12/- to 13/-. Passionfruit: 16/- to 17/-. Custard Apples: 3/- to 3/6 per qrt. case. Pineapples: Smooths, 6/- to 7/- case. Tomatoes: 5/- to 7/-.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Adelaide (1/5/39).—Prices supplied by S.A. Fruitgrowers' and Market Gardeners' Association. Apples: G. Smith 7/- case; Del., 7/-; Jons., 7/-; cookers, 4/- to 5/-; Bananas, 25/- to 27/- case; Grapes, 3/6 to 5/- half case; Lemons, 8/- case; Oranges, 9/- case; Passionfruit, 14/- case; Pears, 8/- to 10/- case; Pineapples, 20/- to 22/- case; Quinces, 3/6 to 4/- case; cases extra.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Perth (27/4/39). — Apples: Jons. dumps, 4/- to 7/-; Dunn's, 3/- to 4/6; R. Beauty, 3/- to 4/-; G. Smith, 5/- to 7/-; Cleo., 4/- to 6/6; Pears, Bartlett, flats, 3/- to 7/-; Oranges, Val., flats, 6/- to 9/-; Navel, dumps, 6/- to 13/-; Lemons, flats, 3/6 to 6/6; Grapes, open, white, 3/- to 8/-; colored, 3/- to 7/-; Passionfruit, 6/- to 8/6; Tomatoes, 6/- to 13/3.

NEW ZEALAND.

Dunedin (21/4/39) — Messrs. Reilly's Central Produce Mart Ltd. report as follows:—Fairly heavy consignments of Apples have been received. Some very fine tree-ripened Cox's Orange and Jonathans have come to hand, and prices for these have been satisfactory. For lower grades sales are still difficult. Cooking Apples are in ample supply, and

are selling at reasonable values. Pears have a fair demand.

Fair supplies of Tomatoes are still being received, and prices are keeping satisfactory. Very heavy supplies of Peaches have been coming to hand, but sales of these have been difficult, and returns to growers cannot leave much margin. A few late Plums are also being received.

Jamaican Oranges have had a good enquiry, further supplies being made available to-day.

Lemons have a better enquiry, supplies of Californians being available for the demand.

Prices (per case): Jamaican Grapefruit, 17/6 to 27/6; Cal., 35/-; N.Z. Lemons, 15/- to 16/-; Cal. Sunkist Lemons, 55/6. Oranges: Jamaicans, 21/- to 29/-. Bananas, Ripes, 22/6. Apples: Cox's Orange, 8/- to 12/-; Jons., 6/- to 8/6; Del., 6/- to 8/-; G. Smith, 7/- to 8/-; small grades, 3/- to 4/6; cooking Apples, 4/6 to 6/-. Queensland Pineapples, 18/- to 20/-. Pears: Conference, 7/- to 8/-; B.B., 7/- to 8/-; W.C., 5/- to 6/6; cooking Pears, 3/6 to 4/6. Quinces, 5/- to 6/-. Per Half Case: Peaches, 1/- to 2/6. Plums, 2/- to 5/-. Nectarines, 4/- to 6/-. Conference Pears, 3/- to 3/6, W.C. 2/7 to 3/-. Passions, 7/- to 9/-. Quinces, 2/- to 3/-.

FRUIT PRICES IN U.K.

London, 22/4/39.—Prices for Australian Apples are mostly lower. Victorian Jonathans from the "Maloja" sold at 7/- to 10/6 a case, London, 7/3 to 8/3; Granny Smiths, 12/- to 14/3, and Cleo. 9/6 to 10/6. Pears also are easier.

Prices for Apples from other Australian States and New Zealand are as follow:—

Tasmanian: Ex "Maloja," "Clan Farquhar" and balances of "Orcades" and "Tuscan Star": Cox's, 7/6 to 15/6; Jon., 8/- to 9/9; Cleo., 7/6 to 10/3; Alf., 9/- to 11/6; Dunns, 9/3 to 10/-.

South Australian: Ex "City of Manchester" and balances of "Orcades": Cleo., 9/3 to 12/-; Jon., 9/- to 11/9; Londons, 10/3 to 10/6.

West Australian: Ex "City of Manchester"; Dunns, 10/- to 12/-.

New Zealand: Jon., 10/- to 11/9; Alf., 10/- to 11/6; Cox's, 10/3 to 14/9.

Tasmanian Pears: Ex "Orcades" and "Tuscan Star": Boscs, 8/- to 10/-; Packhams, 9/9 to 11/-; Comices, 14/6.

LONDON, 29/4/39.

The demand for Apples and Pears on the London market has shown considerable improvement in the last week. Quotations for Apples:—

Tasmanian: Ex the "Sussex," "Orontes," "Clan Colquhoun," and "Largs Bay"—Jon., 7/- to 10/6; Cleo., 9/- to 11/3; Alf., 9/- to 11/3; Coxes, 7/6 to 13/3; Londons, 9/- to 10/3.

West Australia: Ex the "Sussex," "Orontes," "City of Manchester"—Cleo., 8/6 to 10/9; Jons., 8/- to 10/-; Dunns, 9/9 to 11/6.

South Australian: Ex the "Orontes" and "Sussex"—Romes, 9/- to 9/9; Jons., 7/6 to 10/9; Dunns, 9/- to 9/6; Cleo., 10/6 to 11/3; Grannies, 10/- to 11/3.

Victorian: Ex the "Sussex," "Orontes" and "Largs Bay"—Jons.,

8/6 to 10/6; Dunns, 9/3 to 10/3; Cleo., 10/6 to 10/9; Grannies, 12/6 to 13/6.

Queensland: Ex the "Sussex"—Grannies, 11/- to 13/6.

New Zealand: Ex the "Rangitiki"—Cox's, 9/6 to 13/6; Jons., 9/- to 10/9.

Pears.

Victorian: Ex the "Orontes," "Sussex," and "Largs Bay"—Packhams, 12/3 to 14/-.

West Australian: Ex the "Sussex," "Orontes" and "City of Manchester"—Jos., 11/- to 11/9; Comices, 10/9 to 11/6; Boscs, 9/- to 9/9.

South Australia: Ex the "City of Manchester"—Comices, 9/9 to 11/-.

New Zealand: Ex the "Empire Star"—Boscs, 8/- to 9/3.

Shipments to Manchester: Capt. W. J. Wade, of 16 Bridge-street, Sydney, representative in Australia of the Port of Manchester, advises that the S.S. "City of Canberra," previously advised to commence loading in Sydney on May 27, has now been withdrawn and substituted by the Federal Branch Service S.S. "Middlesex" on the following approximate schedule:—

S.S. "Middlesex": Loads Port Huon-Hobart, May 18-27; Melbourne, May 30; Sydney, June 3; Brisbane, June 6; Wyndham, June 14-17. Due Manchester about July 28.

For space reservation early application is recommended to the vessels' usual loading agents at the ports named.

SOCIAL JUSTICE FOR THE BLIND.

The Appeal to End Appeals.

Dear Reader,

The Blind Workers' Association of Victoria is striving to achieve "Social Justice for the Blind" through special legislation which will provide adequate living standards for all blind persons in Victoria, without charitable appeal to the public.

Charity is a tax upon the community which it can ill afford under a high cost of living. It is not possible to raise sufficient money by voluntary contributions to maintain all high administrative costs and to provide adequately for those who are dependent upon public generosity for their existence.

To secure the required legislation for the blind it is necessary to mould and mobilise public opinion behind the blind workers claims upon Parliament. To effectively do this, a considerable amount of organisation and finance will be entailed. The Association appeals to the public for its moral and financial support in its campaign to remove the burden of hardship and insufficiency now resting upon the shoulders of the majority of those who, through no fault of their own, are afflicted with blindness.

Donations are most urgently needed, and will be promptly and gratefully acknowledged by the Secretary of the Blind Workers' Association (Mr. J. H. Murphy), Room 1, 5th Floor, 94 Elizabeth-street, Melbourne.

Leading Agents in the

BRISBANE FRUIT MARKETS

Highest Prices. **A. S. BARR** Prompt Returns.

FRUIT EXCHANGE, BRISBANE, QUEENSLAND.

Wholesale Fruit Merchant and Growers' Agent.

A Trial Solicited. Returns Speak for Themselves. Shipping No. 19. Established 1888. Registered Telegraphic Address: "Barr, Brisbane."

— ESTABLISHED 1892. —

W. ARKELL & SONS

SHIPPING NO. 12. GROWERS' AGENTS.

Brisbane, B.12

BEST PRICES, PROMPT ADVICE AND REGULAR SETTLEMENT.

Bankers: National Bank of Australasia, George St., Brisbane.

**MURRAY
BROS**



CONSINGING NO. 22 BRISBANE

SECTIONS 5, 41, & 42 ROMA ST., MARKETS

Do not run any Financial Risk with your Fruit but Consign it to

HEDLEY GEEVES PTY. LIMITED

Telegraphic Address: "Apples, Brisbane."

(Hedley Geeves, Managing Director)

Registered Shipping No. 6.

FRUIT EXCHANGE — BRISBANE

SELECTED AGENTS FOR:

Phones: Office B 6218. Residence J 3445.

Established 1911.

Victoria: Harcourt Fruitgrowers' Progress Assn. Ltd.

Tasmania: State Fruit Advisory Board.

Harcourt Fruit Supply Co. Ltd.

New South Wales: Griffith Producers' Co-op. Co. Ltd.

Victorian Central Citrus Assn. Ltd.

Barlow Packing House Co-op. Soc. Ltd.

Motor Cars, Trucks, Tractors

How to Keep Engine Cool

In direct contrast to the office or household radiator, the Automobile Radiator functions as a cooling unit, to dissipate the heat generated by an engine.

Everyone is familiar with the Automobile Radiator Core, with its multiplicity of cells, giving it the appearance of a huge honeycomb, but probably there are many who do not know the important part it plays in maintaining the engine at a safe and workable temperature.

The principle of water cooling is really quite simple, and is so completely effective that it has only slightly varied over a number of years. Briefly, it provides a flow of water, beginning at a tank at the bottom of the radiator core, from where it is pumped through passages around the walls of the cylinders and combustion chambers and thence to a tank at the top of the core. It is readily understood that the water at this stage is extremely hot (about 170 deg. F., in the average engine) and to be of further value must be considerably cooled.

The radiator core is provided for this purpose. It allows the water to trickle through a number of channels,

the surfaces of which are exposed to the cooling air, and so the temperature is greatly reduced when the water again reaches the bottom tank, ready for another circuit of the engine.

Every automobile designer gives this important function very careful consideration and thoroughly tests the construction and dimensions of the proposed radiator core, to determine the exact size of the exposed surface area necessary to maintain efficient engine temperature.

For this reason, car and truck owners are strongly advised, when it becomes necessary to make replacement, to specify a core that measures in every respect with the original equipment core.

National Automotive Service Company, the Parts and Accessories Division of General Motors-Holden's Limited, have recently announced the availability of a complete range of Radiator Cores for all cars and trucks. These cores are of V-Cell construction and made of All Copper, and are recommended for all replacements.

NASCO Radiator Cores are guaranteed to give the same degree of cooling efficiency as the core originally installed on the automobile.

Safety in the Home Garage

A LITTLE CARE in the home garage would often save many injuries, both serious and otherwise. Drivers who do repairs in their own garages often fail to utilise safeguards, which are often compulsory in public garages.

When jacking up a car for wheel removal, the wheels should be firmly blocked. If you intend working underneath a jacked car, take the additional precaution of using bricks or blocks to prevent it falling, should the jack fail.

Strained, or weak spanners have been the cause of many minor injuries.

When in this condition, scrap them! Never use an adjustable spanner, if the correct size fixed one is available.

Using an open flame in a garage always involves some risk in case of petrol leak. See that the garage is well ventilated near floor level, as

petrol fumes are heavy, and that a fire extinguisher, such as a bucket of sand is always handy.

When any accessory, such as a drill, inspection lamp, or vulcanisor, is used from the mains, connection should be made through a three-pin power-plug of modern type, the third pin of which is earthed. With this system, rubber-insulated cab-tyre flex is used, which contains three wires. The third wire is connected with the earth pin of the plug, and with the metal body of the accessory, and this ensures that, in the event of a short developing, the fuse will immediately be blown instead of the user receiving a shock which may be really dangerous if the floor is damp. An alternative is to have a small power transformer installed to give the same voltage as the car battery, which will allow the car inspection lamp to be used from the mains, with perfect safety.

TYRES MUST GRIP.

The following are a few hints for drivers, which may prove of use during, what is probably the most dangerous driving time—Winter.

Apply brakes gently, because when sudden application locks the wheels, the tyres have less grip on the pavement than when they are turning against firmly applied, but not locked, brakes.

Skidding is affected by types of road surface speed, amount of moisture on the road, dust, and even filler used between joints of pavements.

On wet pavement as speed increases, friction between tyres and road decreases.

The sole function of a tread in reducing skidding on wet pavement is to wipe the pavement dry, so the rubber in contact with the road, can get its best grip.

Effective tread design must be of a pattern that provides wiping action, plus channels for the quickest possible flow of water from under the tyre.

CORRECT TYRE PRESSURES IMPORTANT.

Correct air pressure in the tyres is often overlooked, despite the fact that this leads to unnecessary trouble and expense.

Under inflation, causes increased traction and rolling resistance, and damages the cover; and over-inflation means hard riding and increased live loads on all parts. Again, if pressures are low, cornering and steering will be affected; and, above all, the two tyres on each axle must be the same pressure, so that the correct balance is maintained between front and rear to ensure equalised braking and steering. Thus, pressures must be maintained to within half a pound.

MUD AND WET LEADS TO CORROSION.

Keeping the paintwork and bright bars of the car clean and polished is a matter which is not simply a question of allowing the car to look its best. That in itself is something worth while, but the owner should recognise that if he permits mud and wet to remain it will lead to corrosion with serious, and expensive, results.

PETROL CONSUMPTION TEST.

A recent test conducted by the R.A.C.V. at the request of Preston Motors Pty. Ltd., justified claims made by the Chevrolet engineers for the 1939 model.

Driving a certified stock model Chevrolet Standard Sedan over a 71-mile course, weighing 1 ton 11 cwt., including petrol and passengers, at an average speed of 30 miles per hour, coasting and shutting off the engine not being permitted, the Official R.A.C.V. Test recorded 28.1 m.p.g., the actual amount of measured fuel consumed being 2 gals, 4 pts. 4 oz.

To substantiate the above test, a further test was conducted by one of the major oil companies, whose records show 27.9 m.p.g.,—only a variation of 0.2 m.p.g.

CARE OF THE BATTERY.

Contrary to the belief of many motorists, the sulphuric acid in the battery does not weaken or evaporate after 12 months or so. The standard instructions issued by leading battery manufacturers are:—"Add distilled water to keep the top of the plates covered when required; never add acid."

Motorists who fail to keep the terminals of a battery clean will have difficulty in removing them when they become corroded. The most effective method is to treat them with diluted ammonia. After cleaning the terminals thoroughly and coating them with vaseline, there should be no recurrence of corrosion.

DANGERS IN TOWING.

It has been ascertained that certain cars, such as Rileys, Armstrong-Siddeleys, Daimlers, Lanchesters, Alvis and some M.G. models, which are fitted with the Wilson pre-selector gearbox, are likely to suffer serious transmission trouble because of the failure of oil circulation if towed in the neutral position.

Experts of the R.A.C.V. state that in event of accident, such cars should be towed, preferably with the rear axle raised from the ground, or if on their wheels, top gear should be engaged and the clutch pedal locked to a disengaged position. If such cars were towed in neutral, the oil pump in the gear box would not operate, and there would be a possibility of the gears running dry and seizing-up.

The best method of towing these units would be a front-end lift with drive shaft connected at gear-box end with cars fitted with open tail-shafts, and in the case of cars with enclosed drive shaft, a back-end lift.

RECORD BUICK PRODUCTION.

The Buick Division of General Motors achieved an all-time sales record, producing more cars than in any corresponding period in the history of the Company in U.S.A. Buick ended the year with a world production of 180,163 cars. In accomplishing the 1938 sales record, Buick climbed to fourth place in U.S.A. registrations over cars in considerable lower price brackets.

It has been estimated by one authority that throughout the world there are now in use 3½ million motor cycles.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO FRUITGROWERS

All Members
under
Fidelity Bond

In response to numerous requests from growers for information as to who are members of the Wholesale Fruit Merchants' Association of Victoria the following list is given. All are members of the above Association, and are registered firms carrying on business in the

WHOLESALE FRUIT MARKET, MELBOURNE.

STAND NUMBERS ARE AS INDICATED IN PARENTHESES.

T. STOTT & SON (26).
H. L. E. LOVETT & CO. (23).
A. E. PITT (14).
J. DAVIS PTY. LTD. (8).
W. S. TONG (31).
SILK BROS. PTY. LTD. (24-25).
J. G. MUMFORD (35).
GOLDEN VALLEY FRUIT CO. PTY. LTD. (15).
J. W. ROSS (13).
H. M. WADE & CO. (21).
DAVID SMITH PTY. LTD. (3).
SILBERT SHARP & DAVIES PTY. LTD. (17).
WATKINS FRUIT COMPANY PTY. LTD (5)
P. A. PATRIKEOS (36).

G. WOOLF & SONS (29-30).
R. CORNISH & SONS (5).
J. HYMAN & SON (51).
HERBERT WILSON PTY. LTD. (10).
FRANK BOOTH & SONS PTY. LTD. (16).
GEO. LISTER PTY. LTD. (12).
TIM YOUNG & CO. PTY. LTD. (18).
F. W. VEAR PTY. LTD. (28).
YEE HOP LOONG & CO. (32).
H. LOUEY PANG & CO. PTY. LTD. (4).
WING YOUNG & CO. (38).
D. MENTIPLAY & CO. PTY. LTD. (27).
PRICE & KING PTY. LTD. (2).
REGAN & KENNY (Successors to Wm. Sweeney). (33).

Correspondence is invited by the Association.

Office: 21 Wholesale Fruit Market,
Queen Street, Melbourne. Phone: F 4866.

The Queensland Pineapple Industry

HALF SHARE IN STATE CANNERY PURCHASED BY GROWERS.

Levy for Advertising to Increase Consumption.

A STURDY SPIRIT of self-help has been displayed by the Queensland Pineapple Industry in facing up to the problem of satisfactorily placing a rapidly increasing production.

It was in 1923 that effective organisation was introduced to the Queensland fruit industry by the "Fruit Marketing Organisation Act." For some years prior to 1923, conditions in the Pineapple industry had been chaotic. Immediate steps were taken by the C.O.D., the name by which the Organisation created by the Act is commonly known, to enter into arrangements with the canners to stabilise conditions. Success crowned these efforts at once, and prices for factory Pineapples were more than doubled in a period of five years.

The depression seriously affected the industry in 1930 and 1931, and the falling off in the Australian buying power compelled the industry to explore the possibilities of the export markets, particularly those of the U.K. and Canada. Exports increased until in 1934 they exceeded 106,000 cases. The industry received a setback in the following three years, due particularly to drought conditions and the effects of diseases. During this period active steps were taken by the industry, in conjunction with the Queensland Department of Agriculture, the Fruit Industry Sugar Concession Committee and the canners to thoroughly investigate all problems affecting production. As a result, growers have been able to greatly reduce losses from diseases, and production per acre has been greatly increased.

With a comparative shortage of fruit during the 1935-37 period and consequently increased prices, heavy plantings were made which resulted in production in 1938 increasing to 1,317,176 cases from 774,329 1½ bushel cases the previous year. Most of this increase had to be absorbed by the canners. In order to stabilise the position, the policy had been adopted of processing only sufficient for the Australian requirements, and exporting the balance. To safeguard the position for 1938, the C.O.D. created an export reserve to supplement the grant of £8,000 from the Fruit Industry Sugar Concession Committee to meet export losses. Growers contributed towards the export reserve an amount of £1 per ton on the Summer and early Winter fruit, and £1/10/- per ton on the later Winter fruit. The increased contribution in the Winter was made on account of lower prices operating in the U.K. and Canada and the fear of developments result-

ing from the competition of substantial quantities of Formosan canned Pineapples offering at very low figures.

Early in 1938, a ballot of factory suppliers was taken on the question of the purchase by the C.O.D. on behalf of the industry of a half interest in the State Cannery, the largest Pineapple cannery in Queensland, and the one which had concentrated upon the export market.

The purchase price of the half interest was slightly over £40,000 and the proposal placed before the growers was that they should contribute 10/- per ton on all factory fruit towards the purchase, the fund to be worked on the Revolving Fund principle, that is, contributions would be pooled and growers would receive after a lapse of a few years the return of their earlier contributions. The proposal was approved by a 87.82% majority.

During the year, the C.O.D. placed with factories 689,350 1½ bushel cases, an increase of 271,189 cases on the previous record year in 1936.

In order to increase sales in Australia, a substantial price reduction on the canned article was made early in August. Towards the end of the year there was every indication of a heavy Summer crop in 1939. So that the whole of this crop could be placed with canners, it was essential to have a clearance of stocks. The reduced Australian prices resulted in satisfactory sales of the Australian pack and towards the end of the year, the export position was sufficiently clarified for a refund to be made to growers of the extra 10/- per ton contributed in the late Winter. In February of this year, a further 5/- per ton was returned to growers on the 17,210 tons supplied over the whole of 1938.

The new season's pack commences with an entire clearance of the Australian pack and only a very small carryover of the export stocks.

The Summer crop of 1939 was seriously reduced by phenomenal losses from sunburn, all of which occurred in a period of two hours intense heat. The losses were partly compensated for by favourable rains shortly before the maturing period, which resulted in the fruit sizing excellently, thus rendering possible a much higher export pack than would have been the case had the fruit been smaller.

For 1939 growers are contributing towards a General Reserve, an amount of £1/1/8 per ton, a small portion of which has been earmarked for advertising purposes.

POLL ON BANANA MARKETING.

Requisite Majority of 60 Per Cent. Not Obtained for Abolition of Purchasing Bananas for Local Sale.

The C.O.D. recently conducted a poll in Queensland on the matter relative to the purchasing of Bananas for local sale.

The purchasing of Bananas for Interstate trade has always been possible under the Commonwealth Constitution, but as regards sale of Bananas in Queensland itself, a considerable body of opinion was in favor of the abolition of the system by which Brisbane agents could purchase Bananas for sale, believing that this practice tended rather to disrupt the market, and operate unfairly to the grower.

On a poll being taken, 548 voted for the abolition of the system of Banana

purchasing, and 428 against. But although a majority favored abolition of the purchasing system, their wishes cannot be acceded to, as their percentage of votes was only 56.11, whereas the necessary majority is 60 per cent.

There were two surprises: (1) only 55 per cent. of growers voted, and (2) the large number of informal votes.

U.S.A. has adopted a valuable system of "quick freezing" of fruits and vegetables. The possibility of the introduction of this system into Australia forms the subject of a letter from the South Australian Trade Commissioner in London, Sir Chas. McCann, to the S.A. Government Produce Department, and details have been furnished to the S.A. Fruit-growers' and Market Gardeners' Association (see report in this issue).

QUEENSLAND

CONTROL OF FACTORY CITRUS FRUIT — RESULTS OF TOMATO EXPERIMENTS — GRAPE VINE VARIETIES RECOMMENDED — BANANA MARKETING POLL — PINEAPPLE JUICE.

Factory Citrus Fruit Controlled by C.O.D.

THE Committee of Direction has issued a Citrus Fruit Direction stating that no citrus shall be sold to any fruit canner, fruit preserver, jam or pulp manufacturer unless they are agents appointed by the C.O.D. This direction came into force for the period of two years from April 21, 1939.

Results of Tomato Experiments.

A summary of the quarterly report of the Queensland Tomato Pathologist (Mr. J. E. C. Aberdeen) states that experiments carried out did not indicate that a heavy lime Bordeaux has any advantage over the other mixtures. Once again, as in last year's experiments, colloidal copper showed itself at least as good as Bordeaux mixture under the conditions of the experiments, whilst the difference in the results between copper sulphate and copper carbonate dusts does not justify the recommendation of one in preference to the other. However, tendencies which have shown up during both this year and last year's experiments are that the use of copper carbonate dust seems to result in a slightly higher early yield; that the use of copper sulphate dust gives a slightly better control of target spot (A. solani), and that in each case the copper carbonate plus sulphur dust appears to occupy an intermediate position between the other two.

With regard to wet sprays and dusts, it was observed that the adherence of the wet spray to the leaf is far superior to that of the dust. Bordeaux mixture in the Spring crop appears to reduce the early fruiting in comparison with the dusts and colloidal copper, though the dusts in their turn are inferior to colloidal copper, also the superiority of Bordeaux varied with the different dusts in the control of Stem-End Rot of Tomatoes from Target Spot organism (A. solani). Last year, a slight all-round superiority was indicated in favor of Bordeaux.

Suitable Grape Vines.

Great care has to be taken by the prospective Queensland vine grower that the area chosen for production

offers the natural advantages in both temperature and rainfall or in irrigation facilities. There are many areas at present which are unexploited, but no doubt these will be planted in the future.

The following list of tested varieties has proved very successful for commercial growing in the areas named.

Coast South From Rockhampton.

Early: Madelleine Royal, Ferdinand de Lesseps, Chaouch.

Mid-Season: Muscat Hamburg, Black Hamburg, Royal Ascot, Cinsaut.

Late: Servant.

North of Rockhampton.

Early: Madelleine Royal, Ferdinand de Lesseps, Chaouch.

Mid Season: Muscat Hamburg, Black Hamburg, Royal Ascot.

Stanthorpe and Western Highlands.

Early: Chaouch, Canon Hall Muscat, Golden Chasselas, White Wax.

Mid-Season: Muscat Hamburg, Gros Colman, Red Malaga, Cinsaut, Royal Ascot, Black Hamburg, Black Prince.

Late: Waltham Cross, Purple Cornichon, Red Hannepot, Servant, Flame Tokay, Belas Blanco, Doradillo, Gordo Blanco, Black Malaga, White Ladies Finger, Red Ladies Finger, Centennial, Gros Guillaume, Henab Turki.

Pineapple Juice.

The Queensland Canneries Pty. Ltd. is manufacturing an excellent Pineapple juice which is free from preservative, thus retaining the true Pineapple flavor. Each tin contains 14 ozs. of pure juice, and by the addition of water, three glasses or more can be obtained from the one tin.

Special arrangements have been made for case lots to be supplied at 14/- f.o.b. Brisbane. A case contains four dozen 14 oz. tins. 1/9 will carry a single case a distance of 635 miles. Hence, the cost up to a distance of 635 miles is just under 4/- per dozen, or 4d. for three glasses or more of a pure, satisfying, health-giving drink. Orders will be accepted by the Committee of Direction, together with a cash remittance.

STRAWBERRY GROWING IN QUEENSLAND

AFTER DESCRIBING CULTURAL METHODS FOR STRAWBERRY CULTURE IN QUEENSLAND, MR. H. BARNES, DIRECTOR OF FRUIT CULTURE, BRISBANE, WRITES AS FOLLOWS

Varieties.

Although most of the standard varieties of Strawberries have been grown in Queensland at one time or another, experience has shown that no one varieties has proved permanent, and that it is necessary to raise new kinds from seed. Varieties producing perfect flowers have proved more profitable than pistillate sorts, and are, therefore, more common.

After being grown for a few years under Queensland conditions, most varieties become weaker in growth, more liable to disease, and less prolific, so that they have to be rejected. The production of new sorts is thus essential, and there is no better way of doing this than by raising local seedlings.

Some of the best varieties ever grown in the State have been locally-raised seedlings, of which the Aurie, Anetta, and Phenomenal are good examples.

There is no reason why others, equal or even superior to these, should not be produced. Of the well-known standard varieties, such as Margue-

rite, Trollops, Victoria, British Queen, Pink's Prolific, Federation, Melba, and Edith, and several others which have been grown from time to time, few are now planted. Phenomenal (A Gympie-raised seedling) and Aurie (another variety of local origin) are now the most common varieties. Other new varieties are being tested, and some of them may prove adaptable to local conditions. The type of Strawberry best suited to Queensland conditions is a vigorous healthy grower that is a heavy bearer of highly colored fruit of firm texture and fine flavour; a fruit which keeps and carries well, and which meets the requirements of both the fresh fruit trade and the jam maker.

As Strawberry seed is produced freely and germinates readily, raising seedling plants, which usually fruit the following season, is recommended. By careful selection, there is reasonable possibility of improving on existing varieties. Seed should not be collected indiscriminately, but from fruit produced freely on plants showing marked vigour.—"Q'land. Agric. Journal."

Planting and Pruning Fruit Trees

EARLY PLANTING, say at the beginning of June, is advocated because deciduous fruit trees will make fresh root growth during mild weather in the Winter if the soil about the roots is moist. It is obviously advantageous for such growth to develop after the tree is in its permanent position, So writes Mr. W. Le Gay Brereton, Chief Instructor of Fruit Culture in the N.S.W. Agricultural Gazette.

Contour Planting.

Anyone contemplating planting new areas, should certainly give careful consideration to contour planting, if the proposed site is on a hillside, and owners of existing orchards on hillsides should delay no longer in taking measures to prevent further rapid loss of soil on account of erosion. The longer erosion is allowed to go on the more difficult and costly the task becomes to check it. Eventually it will reach a point when the undertaking is impracticable.

Undoubtedly contour planting is the most satisfactory layout for hillside orchards, because, when the trees are planted out on contours and it is found later that extra protection is required from stormwaters, this can be provided without difficulty, by means of contour drains and banks and without disturbing the established trees.

Contour Banks and Drains.

In a great many cases hillside sites lend themselves to a contour layout without any great difficulty, although it may be necessary to break the area into more than one system of contours. On the other hand, sites may be met where several hillocks occur within a very limited area, and on such an area a contour layout would become too irregular and complicated. In these cases contour drains and banks should be laid out and trees planted on one of the symmetrical plans such as the square or equilateral triangle.

The contour drains and banks should be laid out and formed before planting, as later, after the trees are planted, they will interfere with the work. Moreover, if the work is put off until after planting there is a definite likelihood for it to be put off altogether. As a matter of fact to check erosion from the very start the forming of these drains and banks should be carried out as soon as the land has been ploughed and subsoiled prior to planting time.

With the numerous examples of ruin of hillside orchards from erosion in almost every fruit district, it is really surprising that so few orchardists have attempted to carry out remedial measures in established orchards and that so few have adopted contour planting on new areas.

Pruning.

In many of the coastal areas, a start can be made during May, to prune Peach trees. On the tablelands and in inland areas defoliation generally takes place somewhat later. However, weather permitting, it is advisable to get as early a start as possible with this work. If delayed, it clashes

with other work towards the end of the Winter, and often requires the employment of more labour to put it through. This not only means extra expense, but often, in the rush the pruning is more or less slumped.

To economise as regards time, a start should be made with the kinds and varieties, which start earliest in the Spring. An exception, however, must sometimes be made. For instance, most Apricots start into growth earlier than the inland grown varieties of Peaches, but because the Apricot often carries its foliage later than the Peach, a start should be made to prune the Peach before the Apricot.

Fruit Juices

Special Experiments are being made by the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research.

A LARGE VARIETY of fresh juices enjoy great popularity as beverages abroad. Since 1929, the production and preservation of unfermented fruit and vegetable juices has developed in a remarkable manner in U.S.A. and some European countries.

In U.S.A. at present, Pineapple, Tomato and Citrus juices are the most important, but increasing consumption of Apple and Cherry juices is likely in the near future.

In Europe, fruit juice production has become very important in Germany, Holland, Switzerland and one or two of the smaller States, but production is still small in England and France. Experimental work is going on in England and expansion in the production of Apple and berry juices may be expected in the near future.

Apple juice is by far the most important of the juices in Europe at present.

Australian fruit growers are becoming interested in the possibilities of this new market, which offers a means of disposal of culls and surplus fruit.

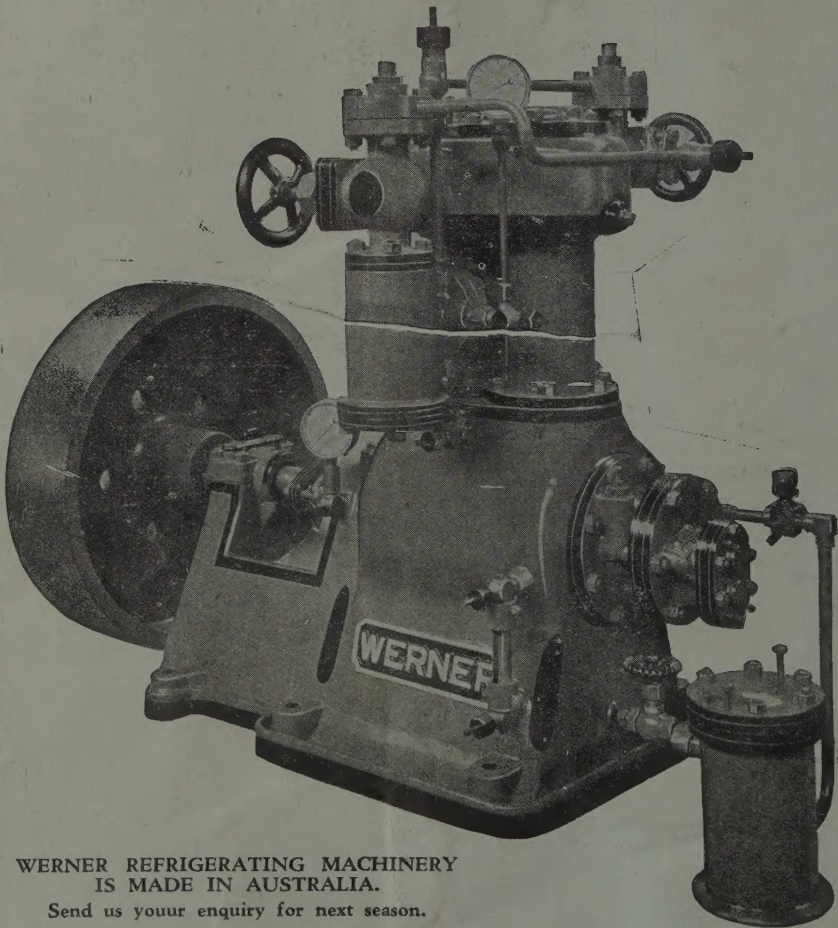
Before the industry can be developed, preliminary work must be undertaken to determine the most effective manner in which well-known processes can be applied to local conditions. In addition, the problem of producing natural fruit juices which are stable and which retain their original flavours and content of vitamins for long periods, offers a wide field for fundamental research.

The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research is at present considering plans for a small laboratory of 1,700 sq. ft., attached to its Division of Food Preservation and Transport at Homebush, which will house the equipment and the officers engaged in this work. The laboratory will have a provision for a small scale pilot plant for extracting, bottling, canning and sterilising fruit juices, and sufficient storage space to enable samples to be kept and observed over considerable periods. In this work, great importance is placed on absolute cleanliness and freedom from contamination from micro-organisms. For these reasons, the laboratory will be so constructed that it can be thoroughly cleaned with hot water.

In view of the peculiar difficulties of distribution met with in Australia, the possibility of canning fruit juices will be investigated. The investigation will include the development of suitable lacquer coatings to prevent corrosion of the can material during storage. At first, Apple, Citrus, Pineapple and Prune juices will be studied, with later extension of the work to include Tomato, Grape, Passionfruit, and possibly other fruits.

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